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# COMFORT

THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES

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## PRIZE STORIES.

The following conditions govern the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

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2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with home or phone if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same envelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace, or city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMPETITORS SHOULD THEREFORE RETAIN A COPY OF WHAT THEY SEND.

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## PRIZE WINNERS FOR OCTOBER.

Howard M. Strong, First Prize.  
C. E. Barns, Second Prize.  
Helen M. Winslow, Third Prize.  
Katherine Stagg, Fourth Prize.  
F. E. Burnham, Fifth Prize.

## By Word of Mouth.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOWARD M. STRONG.

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"MONEY," wheezed old man Beamy, "is a nevilan' a curse even unto the third an' fourth generation." A toothless grin divided his evaporated features and his wicked little eyes swam about gleefully in their watery sockets.

"A l f y—y o u r nephew—has not as yet—" the attorney paused and bit his nails thoughtfully.

"Nor won't be," said the old man, apparently addressing the key-hole of the dining-room door. "You don't ketch me cursin' my nevvie with a bank account."

From behind the dining-room door there came the sound of angry mutterings. As these grew more pronounced the old man's meager frame shook with silent laughter.

"Turrible," he groaned, "to have to listen to such language as that. I'd be ashamed to look a commandment in the face after listenin' to them words of Alf's."

"Why not leave all your property in trust?" suggested the attorney, suddenly. "Then Alf—"

"I'll leave it in trust all right," was the ready response. "Every dollar goes to found a nimbecile asylum. Then Alf'll come into his own sure enough."

"But Alf—"

"Will you shut your mouth! Write it in—nimbecile asylum—of every thing I die possessed."

Consumed with indignation over his uncle's unlikable conduct, and yearning to throttle Peel for his meek surrender of so promising a cause, Alf, unable to longer remain a passive listener, flung open the door.

"FOOL!" he shouted.

"What was my last word, nevvie?" his uncle asked earnestly. "Peel here seems to have lost holt of my remarks."

"Imbecile!" screamed Alf.

"Wrong, wrong," the old man corrected; "you've missed a word, nevvie, and it's the first one ever I knowed of."

"I'll pay you for that," said the nephew, reaching out his long arms toward where Mr. Beamy was seated. "I'll shake that smartness out of you. I'll—"

striking across the room he caught up the frail old man and held him at arm's length, as if about to dash him to the floor.

A quick step sounded upon the walk, and in at the open window came a shower of handbills. Alf's tense grasp relaxed, and the old man was dropped back into his chair.

"For a minute I had a notion to kill you," Alf said vindictively; "and you too—" turning to the attorney; but that personage had already sought safety in flight.

Stooping mechanically, Alf picked up one of the printed slips. He read it slowly.

## GRAND PERFORMANCE!

TREJAN'S TROOP  
of  
ENGLISH ENTERTAINERS

THIS NIGHT ONLY  
AT THE TOWN HALL.  
Admission 25 cents.

"You might open your heart once," he sneered, turning to his uncle; "and—" his glance fell on the shapeless heap in the chair—the livid features—the hanging jaw—dead, all but the eyes; they rolled and leaped and cursed the terrified nephew with a thousand maledictions.

Unable to remain in the accusing presence, Alf shouted for the housekeeper and rushed out into the street. By a singular stroke of fortune he encountered the doctor a short distance from the house, and this good samaritan he dispatched to the assistance of his uncle. Then hunting up Peel, he proceeded to unburden himself.

"It couldn't be worse for you, Alf," was Peel's soothing assurance.

"But he hasn't signed the will yet," protested Alf. "It must come to me now as next of kin."

Peel shook his head. "That was just a new draft your uncle was having made. The only difference is that the original will leaves all to Missions. Your're not in it, Alf, in any way, shape or form. Have a cigar."

Alf accepted the cheap stogy and bit off the end savagely. Several times he opened his lips to speak, but in each instance chewed off another section of the cigar and remained silent. It was a decided relief to Peel when the doctor finally entered.

"Bad," said the physician, in reply to an unspoken inquiry. "He is paralyzed—can't speak, feel or move; but he can hear and see all right. I'll stake my reputation on that."

"Sad!" groaned Peel. "What, going Alf?" It is remotely possible that Alf possessed a conscience; and this possibility combined with a superstitious fear of the haunting eyes will doubtless explain why he avoided the home of his uncle during the remainder of the day. In the evening he resorted to the town hall, and apparently slept through the entire performance.

According to all reports the show was poor enough; but for some reason Alf chose to linger in the hall after the other spectators had straggled out. Later on he departed by way of the stage door and in company with the star performer. What Alf was confiding in a low whisper seemed to amuse this gentleman greatly.

"O, you'll do!" he said heartily, slapping Alf on the back. "You're a man after my own heart. Shake!"

About midnight the pair routed Peel out of bed, and Alf introduced his companion as Prof. Vocosto, an old friend of the family.

"We're going to see Uncle," Alf explained glibly. "He thought everything of Vocosto, and the surprise of an unexpected meeting may—well, persons often recover their speech again under such circumstances. If such a thing should occur, it wouldn't be a bad idea to have a lawyer and a few witnesses standing around, now would it?"

Peel, being a lawyer, was unwilling to express his opinion off hand, for fear it might prove to be worth something. Nevertheless he hastened to cover his shivering frame with a few needful garments.

"All ready," he announced when his celluloid collar was safely anchored and his shiny black bow snapped back into place. "But be it understood, gentlemen, that I attend in a professional capacity only."

It was the doctor who met them at the door of the Beamy residence, and here Alf once more delivered himself of the story of the long absent friend—with variations.

The doctor shook his head wearily and assured them that it could do no good.

"Of course," he said, as Alf grew insistent, "I cannot prevent your going in and seeing him, if you are determined to do so."

That was sufficient encouragement for the professor. He laid aside his hat, gloves and cane, and called for a drink of water. In a moment Alf appeared, bearing before him a wash-pitcher filled to the brim, and from this unwieldy vessel the professor moistened his lips deliberately.

"Shall we enter now?" he asked, turning to the little group.

"Yes, now," said Alf, and immediately fell to weeping.

One after another the four men entered the bed-chamber of the stricken man. In his hand Alf still carried the water-pitcher, and in the other a square yard of handkerchief.

"Great idea," murmured the professor. "Save them all, my boy."

"All of which he dies possessed," Alf whispered back hoarsely, having caught neither the drift nor the sarcasm of the remark. "To his loving nephew—"

"Mr. Beamy!" cried the professor, "Don't you know me—Vocosto?" He stood at the foot of the bed, his arms tragically outstretched.

The old man's eyes turned from the doctor to Peel—then to his nephew—and at last came to

# Won't You Write a Postal to Get Well?

Send me no money, but simply write me a postal if you are not well. Pay when you get well.

I will send you a book that tells how a lifetime of study has enabled me to strengthen the inside nerves. Those are the nerves that operate the stomach, kidneys, heart, womanly organism, etc. Weakness of these organs means weakness of those nerves. Nerve strength alone makes any organ do its duty.

I will send you, too, an order on your nearest druggist for six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Use it for a month, and if it succeeds, pay him \$5.50 for it. If not, I will pay him myself.

No matter how difficult your case; no matter what you have tried. If my book shows you that your trouble is nerve weak-

rest on the professor. Several moments passed in unbroken silence. It was a trying situation; even Alf forgot to weep.

"This is worse than useless," the doctor said at length; but the professor stilled him with a sweeping gesture.

An indistinct mumbling came from the head among the pillows. The professor bent quickly forward, a movement which brought him directly in front of the night-lamp, and threw a deep shadow across the bed.

"Doctor, he speaks," said Peel, trembling violently.

"Witness—" the voice came faintly, as from a grave, cold and hollow—"I, John Beamy—sound mind—feeble body—do give and bequeath—all of which—I die—possessed—to—"

The pause seemed endless. Alf gasped for breath and pressed nearer the bed.

"—to my—" resumed the almost inaudible voice—"dear friend—H. Vocosto—amen."

The doctor sprang forward to administer stimulants. The professor straightened up and cleared his throat. Peel was scratching away with his pencil on the fly-leaf of an old note-book. It was fully five minutes before Alf comprehended just what had happened. When the bitter truth finally worked its way to his point of comprehension, he threw off all restraint and rushed wildly at the professor.

"A lie!" he shrieked, "my uncle—"

"Will soon be no more," said the doctor, solemnly. "Gentlemen, respect death."

"Come away, Alf," the professor said soothingly. "Your affliction is great; but be a man and try to bear it."

"Bear nothing!" cried Alf. "What did you mean by it—say!"

"Grief has temporarily unseated his reason," the professor confided to Peel.

"O, my reason's all right," whined Alf. "If your reason is half as good it may save you a whole skin."

"Poor fellow! come outside; the fresh air will do you good."

When they were at a safe distance from the house, Alf broke out with a torrent of abuse.

"You've played it pretty low," he stormed.

"Sir," replied the professor, "I do not understand you."

"O cut that out; I want to know why you didn't proceed according to agreement?"

"Really, Alf, your condition is pitiful; you are undone."

"Undone and overdone—brown! But I'll spoil your game. I'll give the whole thing dead away."

The professor grew conciliatory. "That," he declared, "would be cutting off someone's nose with a vengeance. Suppose we compromise."

"How much?" Alf asked eagerly. "I'm no hog."

"Say half."

"I'll take you. In the mean time—"

"Keep on looking disappointed," advised the professor; "it is our trump card. But remember to keep quiet and let me do all of the talking."

When the conspirators re-entered the sick-room, Mr. Beamy's eyes were closed and the doctor stood whispering to Peel, who had ceased to scribble in the open note-book. The professor advanced on tip-toe and Alf followed a few paces behind, his handkerchief ready for immediate action.

"Dead?" said the professor, pointing dramatically at the figure in the bed.

"Dead?" came a faint echo from that identical location.

"A vital spark!" exclaimed the professor un-

easily.

"A vile shark," mocked the voice among the pillows.

"Nix on that," whispered Alf, and clapped a bony hand over the professor's mouth. "You'll do it once too often."

"Not me," the professor protested between Alf's fingers, "not me."

"O gee!" chuckled the ghastly echo, "O gee!"

ness—and most sickness is—I will warrant my Restorative to cure you.

I fail sometimes, but not often. My records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay, and pay gladly. I have learned that most people are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail I don't expect a penny from you.

Mine is the only way to restore vital nerve power. Other treatments brings but fleeting results at best. If you want to get well, let me send you an order for the medicine. If it cures pay \$5.50. I leave the decision to you.

Simply state which books you want, and address Dr. Shoop, Box 301, Racine, Wis.

Book No. 1 on Dyspepsia.  
Book No. 2 on the Heart.  
Book No. 3 on the Kidneys.  
Book No. 4 for Women.  
Book No. 5 for Men.  
Book No. 6 on Rheumatism.

Alf's point of endurance was now passed. He struck the professor a vicious blow on the mouth, and the next instant received better than he had sent. Out into the hall and down the stairs the two men fought and cursed. A heavy crash and the sound of shattered glass announced their exit below.

Up stairs, huddled in the middle of his great four-poster, old man Beamy was shaking with wheezy laughter. The doctor protested, but still he laughed.

"Got to," he croaked. "Alf cryin'—friend Vocosto!—good joke."

"You could understand everything, could you?" the doctor questioned. "It is remarkable; and your sudden recovery is almost without precedent."

"Three strokes," said the old man. "Two more—much fun as this—won't mind. First will stands—Peel. Ain't got—red cent to my name—'nother joke."

The sun was shining in at the windows of the Beamy residence when Peel departed. At the foot of the stairs he picked up a bit of paste-board, which lay among bits of glass and broken furniture. After a hasty glance he pinned it to the casing of the door, where it could not fail to catch the doctor's eye.

PROF. VOCOSTO  
PHENOMENAL VENTRILOQUIST  
with  
TREJAN'S TROOP.

## As the Major Told it.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY C. E. BARNES.

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Broadway so long and never heard the story of the old New York hotel Bibles, and the great Longstreet will contest? Waiter, another deni-tasse and two Perfectos, quick!

"It runs back to the time that the old hostility was torn down to make room for the twenty-story skyscraper that stands there now. The famous old rendezvous, as you know, was the virtual northern headquarters of the confederacy during the war. Jove! but its cracked old seams and crevices could have told a mighty tale of intrigue, secret compacts and mysteries of the great struggle that will remain riddles forever. It was packed with queer old furniture of the olden time, mammoth fireplaces and mahogany lounges suggestive of ease and a confidential chat over the fragrant juleps and the clay pipe. For thirty years after the war it was frequented by 'Majahs' and 'Kunnels' all the way from Chickamauga to Tallahassee and the whole breadth of the Mason and Dixon line. Well, when the word was passed around that a syndicate had bought the old confederate landmark on Broadway, a joint howl went up that shook Manhattan island and put Jeremiah out of the lamentation business. There was some talk of saving the old relic by purchase, but ground there is worth its surface covered an inch thick with virgin gold, while sentiment, though it may run deeper, is not hoarded behind steel doors. There was no help for it, and the famous landmark went the way of old junk. I shall never forget the auction. Old graybeards came sniffing among the massive furniture, patting them like faithful servants



with whom they had to part, and the Hebrew gentleman who refused to run up the price because certain southern celebrities had once occupied them were all but mobbed. Then came the last night of all.

"It was a wonderful gathering and took place in the great ballroom—bleak, bare, lighted with a hundred candles stuck in bottles and what-not, for not only was almost everything disbursed, but the gas had been turned off. There was a mammoth fire in the great open fireplace, however, and it threw crimson gleams abroad over the faces of at least fifty frequenters of the old haunt, and not a man there but a veteran. Oh, yes, there was one—Johnnie Farrell, the last lessee of the house, barely twenty-seven years old, but a prime favorite with the old heads, I can tell you. It was Johnnie who ransacked cellar and attic for enough seats to accommodate the crowd, who bought the candles and lighted them, built the fire, furnished long clay pipes and brewed a famous southern punch whose secret was imparted by a dying Confederate general a year before. And such a punch! Do you know, with every sip you could smell the wild-flowers of Alabama, see broad fields of waving cotton and hear the slave-songs of our childhood days—but I am wandering. Excuse these tears. The memory of that punch—"

"Well, Majah Daggett sang a southern ditty, Kunnel Sommers made a glorious speech, then came bowl after bowl, and speech after speech, interspersed with choruses that shook the riven old walls and reverberated through the ghost-haunted chambers like a call to the dead. Ah, it was a glorious farewell, and at the close Majah Daggett said, 'Johnnie, before we rise up and call you blessed for this parting festivity, I want to know if you haven't some souvenirs of the old pile that we may carry away with us to cherish forever. Anything will do, only let it be part and parcel of the old dear spot identified with the illustrious who have gone before. Have you anything Johnnie?' The good host pondered, then shook his head. 'Everything is gone,' he said, 'everything. There is nothing but laths and mortar left and that won't stay long. Hold on! In the cupboard back of the old safe there is a stack of old Bibles—a hundred of them, one for each room in the house. They were given to the hotel by a southern lady forty years ago, and some of them look worn through. Of course it was useless to put Bibles up at auction in this wicked town—"

"Oh, suttinly, suttinly," said the Colonel. "But they are just the thing for souvenirs. Bring them on, old boy, bring them on."

"And it came to pass that within five minutes every old Majah and Kunnel in the crew was sitting there in the dying firelight hugging a worn black Bible to his heart and singing 'Auld Lang Syne' with the tears rolling down his cheeks, and then the guests parted and lost themselves in the sleet of a March night, each with his treasure under his arm and much sober meditation upon 'Sic transit gloria,' et cetera. But little did they dream of the strange sequel of the Bible episode.

"Read of farewell banquet in New York Hotel and distribution of Bibles. For God's sake keep trace of every one of them till I arrive."

ANNA LONGSTREET.

"Johnnie was sitting in the deserted office at the time, waiting to resign his trust and the keys to the agents of the Syndicate, and wondering whither he was to turn, for to tell the truth it had been a hard winter for Johnnie, and he was just about evens-up. He was seated by the grate-fire, a row of candles on the marble mantel above him, when just as the bells of St. Paul's tolled out the hour of nine there came a timid knock at the door and a tall woman heavily veiled, entered, snow-clad like a wraith of elder days. Johnnie stared at the apparition, but as she disclosed her pallid countenance, the man's heart leaped with pity, for sorrow and suffering were in every line, making her ten years older than she really was, for she was still young enough to excite more than common commiseration. Without speaking she advanced and sank by the fire, staring at it like one too overcome to speak.

"It has been a long journey," she said at last as she took from the hand of her host a glass of good cheer, the last drainings of the very last bottle of port, "and I do not know but that I came on a fool's errand. But I saw the notice in the paper, and when I read of the New York Hotel my heart gave a flutter. Then as I went on I became inspired and flew like mad to the telegraph office. The Bibles—the Bibles! Have you track of all of them, sir?"

"Johnnie sat spellbound. What sort of a madwoman had he encountered here? He soothed her as best he could. 'I know all who were here last night,' he said. 'I think I can trace them. But explain yourself, madame, I beg of you.'

"The woman clenched her thin hands over her bosom and lifted her eyes to heaven. 'It is my last hope—my very last. Listen! It is the simple truth. It will not take but a moment.' She nerved herself as for some terrible ordeal. 'Five years ago last December I married Winston Longstreet, the son a Baltimore millionaire. To tell the truth, it was a runaway marriage, for we knew that it was our only chance, since I was—well, I was a seamstress, daughter of respectable but very poor people in an obscure quarter of the town. We met and

loved, Winston and I, and—well, we were young and rash; we eloped and came to New York. We arrived at seven o'clock in the evening and came directly here. After a light supper we went out in search of a minister, and were directed around the corner to the Church of the Strangers. There we met good Doctor Deems, God rest his soul! who made us one, two members of his household being witnesses. Back we came two of the happiest creatures on earth, and were assigned to Room 67 on the second floor overlooking Waverley place. I was brought up a very devout girl, never retiring without my chapter of the Bible and prayer. That night my husband reached down one of those black Bibles and read the fourteenth chapter of John—ah, how I remember it! His voice was like music, and I worshipped him with the adoration of the maiden heart in its first secure sense of possession. Well, do you know, at the close of the reading, I distinctly remember of placing my marriage certificate at that very page for safe-keeping, and then we knelt and prayed out our hearts' gratitude and hope. The next morning when we awoke we found the sun streaming into the chamber, and as the hour was late and we were to take a steamer for Liverpool at eleven, there was barely time to make preparations, get breakfast and be off. It was not until we reached the other side of the ocean that I searched in vain for the marriage certificate—indeed, I never thought that I should have use for it. We went to London, thence to Paris. My husband was never strong, and a cold contracted one night at the opera resulted in fever. Within a year after my marriage I was a widow and a mother, and then came the news of the Senior Longstreet's death in Baltimore. In all haste, with the little money I had left, I hurried home with my infant son."

"The reception I received shocked me. Not only did the Longstreets bar me from their home, repudiating me and my child, but my own mother received me coldly. Then to save my child more than myself from the finger of scorn, I began ransacking my brain for a clew to the missing marriage certificate. Dr. Deems in the meantime was dead. The witnesses were dispersed. The contest over the will of the elder Longstreet, more to establish my son's claims than my own, went against me. I was on the verge of insanity from despair until—until I saw that newspaper note, and then I remembered. Oh, sir, I beg of you, if you have a sister whom you love, if you have a mother whom you revere, in the name of heaven!—"

She could not proceed, but bent down sobbing. "Johnnie arose and brushed a tear from his cheek, for the Irish lad's heart is as tender as it is full of courage. 'Well, it may take a little time,' he said, 'but I promise you I shall go the rounds and search every Bible, though I fear with so much use in all these years—'

"Ah, don't say that! My life—my child's life and hope and honor depend upon it. Go, try, for the love of heaven, try!"

"The host turned away. 'By the way, we might first go through these that are left,' he said, making his way back through the shadows toward the old safe and throwing wide the double door of the cupboard behind it. A moment later he emerged from the darkness bearing an armful of the abandoned relics. 'Cheer up, little woman!' he said. 'There's a big contract ahead,' and he dropped the worn books at the stranger's feet. Down upon the bare floor the woman sank, seizing these ancient volumes as one drowning clutches a lifeline. Johnnie left her there, retreating for more books. Twice he made trips in silence, then at the third loading he heard a piercing shriek and a heavy fall behind him. The man's blood froze in his bosom, and drooping his armful of books which roared through the empty halls after the shrill echoes of the woman's wail, he ran back to the office. There lay the woman before the firelight in a dead faint, her thin hands clenching a yellow sheet of paper and a Bible at her side flung open at the fourteenth chapter of John.

"Isn't it strange how some things start, and how a little accident will turn the tide of a man's fortunes? Do you know what that boy did? He put his watch and Sunday suit in pawn to pay that little woman's way back to Baltimore, and within two weeks he followed himself on borrowed capital. He found exactly what he expected. The people who had scorned the widow now fawned at her very feet. Lawyers flocked around her like Klondykers over a 'pocket' of virgin ore, and the Longstreet will case was reopened on the new evidence. It was the easiest battle on record, and not only saved the honor of the house, God be thanked for that! but it landed the little widow just seven hundred thousand dollars in cash and gilt-edge securities. We saw something of it in the papers, of course, but we were little prepared for an invitation to dine which every Majah and Kunnel of that memorable farewell night received six months later—at the Waldorf-Astoria, b'gad! and with Johnnie Farrell. 'The audacity of him!' exclaimed Majah Daggett. 'Must have captured a fat fee,' mused Kunnel Sommers. But they all came to the feast, mark you that, and Johnnie made the punch. But what do you think! In the very crisis of the feast, who should come in but a sweet-faced little woman in a Parisian gown that was a perfect poem. She wore a

huge bunch of orchids at her corsage, her countenance was radiant with welcoming delight, and she was leading a little tot of a boy with beautiful wide patrician eyes like a young emperor. 'Gentlemen,' said Johnnie in the hush, rising to his feet and lifting his crystal glass of the sparkling, 'I have the honor to present you to—my wife!' I say, the fire engines thought it was an earthquake.

"Think of that now! What luck some people stumble right into without knowing! But I'll take that back. Evidently Johnnie knew, eh? He's just back from London where he has been engineering a Syndicate. Great head, Johnnie! Shall I introduce you?"

### Joshua's Change of Heart.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HELEN M. WINSLOW.

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I WAS never more surprised in all my life than I was last summer one day when Joshua announced that he was going to sell the farm.

"Why, Josh Winter!" I cried. "What under the sun you going to do that for? This old farm where your father lived before you? Where you was born and where we've lived ever since we was married?"

"Wal," he answered uneasily. "I can't help it. Things ain't jest as they was. Times is hard on farms, now."

"Any harder than they be off of 'm?" I inquired; but all I could say was like the wind blowin', jest as it alwuz is when a woman untakes to argue with her pardner after he's got his mind firmly sot; and so I stopped.

I felt bad enough I can tell you; for this was the house where I came as a bride and where my little ones was born; it was where I had closed some little eyes for the last time and where my grown up girl had been married before she went off to start a home for herself. All these things had made the old place grow dearer to me every year, and now to sell it! Why, it was worse than cuttin' eye-teeth. But I said no more, even when Joshua come home from the village and said:

"Wal, Philura, I've done it."

"What? Not sold the farm?" I said with a sinkin' at my stomach, for I didn't know what bad luck might be on us.

"Wal, jest the same as," he said. "I've put it in the hands of Glib and Co. to sell and they say it won't be no time at all afore it goes, an' for a good price too."

I couldn't seem to make up my mind what had turned him ag'in the old place so; I remembered how he had got fooled about the last boss he had swopped, but he ought to be used to "give an' take" in trade before this time o' life. I recalled how he had cashed a note for some smart Alec from the city the past winter and lost fifty dollars by the transaction; I remember how he had sent fifty cents in answer to an advertisement "How to keep your well from freezing in the coldest nights," and had got a printed slip in return that read "Take it into the kitchen nights." I recollected that a few springs ago he had sent off a quarter in answer to another advertisement "How to successfully kill potato-bugs" and had received a printed set of directions of how to catch the bugs and smash 'em between two pieces of board; but none of these seemed to me good and sufficient reasons for selling the farm.

I went out for a walk that afternoon after I got the dinner dishes washed and put away. I went up over the pasture hill and looked over the hundred and fifty acres that lay spread out before me, fifty of 'em in one medder-lot without a stump or stone and I recollected that every year we had been fairly prospered. If crops had been poor some years, why, hay was heavy and sugarin' good; or if the hay-crop was light the oat-fields and corn had balanced off or we had sold off a good stock of young critters; so s't I couldn't see any good reason for bein' so discor'd; things generally evened up about right. And we are middlin' forehanded today. But I held my tongue and didn't worry over what the real estate man said; advertisin' ain't sellin' a farm.

The next Sunday when we come home from meetin' I was astonished, after we had eat our dinner, to see my pardner pull out a Sunday paper from Boston and go to readin' the advertisement pages. He had picked it up at the post-office and I knew it; but I did not cast it up at him now, the number of times I had heard him scold about Sunday papers and call 'em contraptions of the evil one, (in which I agree). I only watched him out'n the tail of my eye and so ag'in through the week at odd times when he'd got that paper out to study it. And for several weeks that went on, he a-bringin' Sunday papers home and spendin' hours over the pages of "houses to let and for sale" and more specially "Farm for sale."

Finally one Monday morning he came into

the milk-room kind o' sheepish-like, and says:

"Philury, here's an advertisement I wish you'd look up. It's been in two weeks now an' I'm goin' to try and make a trade."

I took the paper and read:

"For sale. The dandiest farm in Vermont, Podunk county." (We live in Podunk county.) "Good for gentleman's summer home or all the year round. In the midst of the most famous Green Mountain scenery, a beautiful farm of a hundred and fifty acres with sugar-bush, meadows, woodlot, and the best pasturage in the state. Present owner keeps only seven cows but might have fifteen or even twenty and make money. House is a large, ancestral mansion, roomy, with four fireplaces, piazza, blinds and everything to make life happy. Sold only because the present occupants are unable to appreciate a good thing or to take care of it. A farmer who understands his business can easily get rich here in ten years and have the pleasure of living in Paradise in the meantime. Terms easy, or would exchange for a smaller or less desirable property."

"That reads well," I begun cautiously.

"Huh! I should say it did," said my pardner. "Notice it said 'would exchange'!" he went on. "Well, you go up and see old Glib this afternoon (we want some provender anyway;) and see if we can't swap off our old place."

"Have you any idea where it is?" I asked him. "You see it says Podunk county."

"No," he answered, "Unless it's Colonel Watkin's place over in Freedom, or mebbe Squire Williams' farm over in Granfield. They are both gittin' too old to farm it. Anyhow go 'n see old Glib."

So I harnessed up that afternoon and went. Now, it happened that Cassius C. Glib did not know me by sight, as he never went to meetin' an' I aint in the habit of settin' round the hotel an' post office, where he spends most of the time. So when I went up to his office, on the second floor over the town clerk, he didn't know me from Adam,—or Eve.

"O, yes," he answered when I showed him the advertisement, "I put that in myself. I should like to show you the place first rate, madam. I will drive you out there now, if you can spare the time. Or, mebbe as long as you're here with your team—"

He didn't go on, but I said yes, I'd furnish

## Cured Papa of Drinking.

How Mamma Cured Our Papa who was a Terrible Drunkard by Mixing a Remedy in His Coffee and Food Curing Him Without His Help or Knowledge.

### A TRIAL PACKAGE FREE TO ALL.

It takes a woman to overcome obstacles. Mrs. Chas. W. Harry, 522 E. 4th St., Newport, Ky., and her children had for years patiently borne the disgrace, suffering, misery and privations due to papa's drinking habits.



LITTLE SWEETHEARTS.

Learning there was a cure for drunkenness which she could give her husband secretly she decided to try it. She mixed it in his food and coffee and as the remedy is odorless and tasteless he never knew what it was that so quickly relieved the craving for liquor. He soon began to pick up in flesh, his appetite for solid food returned, he stuck to his work regularly and they now have a happy home. Mr. Harry was told about his wife's experiment and he gives her the credit of having restored him to his senses. It is certainly a remarkable remedy, cures a man without his effort, does him no harm and causes him no suffering whatever.

Dr. Haines the discoverer, will send a sample of this grand remedy free to all who will show for it. Enough of this remedy is mailed free to write how it is used in tea, coffee or food and that it will cure the dreaded habit quietly and permanently. Send your name and address to Dr. J. W. Haines, 1515 Glenn Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, and he will mail a free sample of the remedy to you, securely sealed in a plain wrapper, also full directions how to use it, books and testimonials from hundreds who have been cured, and everything needed to aid you in saving those near and dear to you from a life of degradation and ultimate poverty and disgrace.

Send for free trial to-day. It will brighten the rest of your life.



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HANDLING OUR RELIABLE LAMPS.  
Brighter than electricity, cheaper than kerosene. Thousands of testimonials from people using them over a year. Latest improvements. Permitted by Ins. Co's. Largest factory in U. S. 41 styles for indoors and outdoors. Lowest prices. Retail \$4 up. Sample lamp half price. Exclusive territory to individuals or merchants. Illustrated catalogue free.  
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118 - 120 Michigan St., Chicago.



team; I only wanted to see the place and to talk over an exchange.

"Oh, certain," the man responded in a way that made me reflect how appropriately he was named. "I've no doubt you can make some kind of a trade. The old man wants to sell the worst way, though for the life of me I don't see why. He's really got one of the best farms in the state and has made money there right along year after year."

"I believe you said in the advertisement," I put in, "that he and his wife was gettin' into their dotage."

"Wal, yes," was the answer. "Not that you'll consider them so very old when you see them. But I consider that a fool is in his dotage at any age."

"Then you think this man is a fool?" I asked, with a little suspicion that I had felt all along growing big.

"Haint a doubt of it," was the reply. "Why, if I had that nice old place I wouldn't part with it for three times the money that dummied old feller asks for it."

As we drove along the familiar old road, I asked him some questions about the place and the old couple that lived on it.

"I dunno anything about the old woman," he said. "But she can't be any great shakes for brains to let him sell the farm?" he went on. "You know some women are that lazy they'd give away their souls before they'd exert themselves enough to save 'em. I presume she's just as big a fool as he, an' only thinks about gettin' off the old place and takin' it easy somewhere."

I suggested that maybe her advice wasn't asked; pardners are uncertain at best; but he paid no attention to me and went on.

"Well there ain't no fool like an old fool," he said at last. "There, ain't that a pretty farm?" he asked as we came along side of our own medder-lot. "See this 'ere medder? Ain't a stump nor stone on it. Ten thousand dollars is cheap for a place with so good buildin's and the land in such shape; but you can get it for thirty-five hundred."

I smiled and said I wanted to see the house. So we drove on.

When we entered the yard there was no one in sight.

"Old man's over 'n the medder hayin' most likely; this farm's noted for its hay," he explained. Then he jumped out and began to thump on the side door with his whip-handle. I let him thump knowin' pretty well the 'old woman' wouldn't come to the door.

"Never mind," he said after a while as he pushed open the front door. "The old woman don't seem to be here. Fact is, I haint seen the house myself. Now'd be a good time to see it, and he walked along into my setting-room and lit a cigar. This was a little more than I could stand. I was about to speak when we heard a load of hay goin' into the barn and at the same instant the door opened into the kitchen and in walked Joshua Winter.

"O here you are," exclaimed old Glib. "I've brought you a customer."

You ought to have seen my lawful pardner then. You could have knocked him over with a feather.

"Philury!" he gasped out.

"You know her?" asked the agent; and then he too turned all sorts of colors and looked as if he was going to faint. Next he began to grow mad. He started to swear, but I broke in:

"Now, now, stop that, both ye." I said in as mild accents as I could for laughing. "I hope both on ye hev got a lesson that you'll remember a while. You, Mr. Glib, might learn to speak decent about your customers as well as to 'em, an' make sure of your game afore you stab it," but he had started for the village on foot.

"You, Joshua," I begun, "might learn"

But Joshua was half way to the barn. And that was the last I ever heard of selling the farm. Seems as if, since that advertisement showed him the truth, nobody ever appreciated a good thing as well as he does our old home.

## Melancholy Muggins.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY KATHERINE STAAG.

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AVE you got an extra pillow old boy?"

"Dog gone, Harry! A pillow! You'll be askin' for a lace handkercher next."

"Quit yer foolin', an' answer me. How do you know but I may have a lace handkercher 'mongst my sovenirs; you may recollect I've been East, and in society, so to speak," and

Harry tossed his blonde head in most superior fashion; but that didn't quite settle the question for lanky Joe spat thrice and then drawled "ya-as, yer stayed quite a spell; 'an the boy's often wondered if 'twas at yer own expense or if the state war a footin' yer bills." This sort of thing was considered quite brilliant repartee in the select circles of "Blue Shirt", a wretched disappointed little western town that had tried to be a mining town, a railway centre, and a mineral spring resort, each in vain. It had even tried to make a record as the fiercest and most "wide open" place of the vicinity, but it was no use. Fame and ill-fame alike always passed just within a few miles, and "Blue Shirt" held a very similar position to an old maid wall flower at a party.

But like all underdone little places it was rich in naturally eccentric character. The life in cities acts on people like a magical machine that shaves off corners and original pattern as it were until the great monotony of type is made that we see so pitifully alike, as it hurries up town, down town, and across town in an habitual anxious hurry and worry.

By virtue of a trick or two he had learned on his famous Eastern trip, Harry was looked upon as the dandy of the place; and it was whispered that a claw hammer coat lay con-

cealed at the bottom of his trunk—still this was not seriously believed by the majority.

"Come now, hand out yer pillow if you've got one; yer know tomorrow is the day we christen our first fire engine, 'en the hotel is full to bustin' and"—with great emphasis—"they've gone 'en tuk yer place for some one of the big guns, eh? 'En yer too soft to sleep on a plank;" deep contempt was in Joe's voice but Harry indignantly replied:

"Me? I could sleep standin' up agin' anything short of a hot wire fence. No, its for a woman who happened to drop here by way of the railroad just when this fire engine jamboree is coming off 'en I want the pillow fer her."

"That alters the case; I'll even go so far as to say that if that is a lady in this pillow case that I'll ante the pillow, add a clean pillow case, and hope that the lady on the pillow case will take care of herself and keep away young fellers wot seem mighty anxious 'bout this pillow case." Having perpetrated this outrageous pun old Joe hated to stop and would have doubtless kept on playing with the words like a cat with a mouse had not Harry interrupted. "Look here, Joe, I feel more pertikier than usual in makin' the gal comfortable,—fer she's blind."

"Gee whittaker! 'en alone?"

"Plumb alone!"

"Dang my buttons, but yer better see to it that she don't go foolin' roun' none tomorrow when the fire drill is goin' on. What is she doin' here anyhow?"—suspiciously.

"Naw,—she's a lookin' fer a party named Thornton, an' talks like she'll foller up the pedigree of all hereabouts 'fore she'll quit searchin'."

"I aint never heard the name round here—hev you?"

"I don't recollect it jes' now, but in the hotel business yer runs up agin so many folks that git to sociating every name with something pecoliar to the person;—like Perkins with the striped pants, 'en Brown with his big bottle of spavin' cure; 'en thars the Littles, you know 'em, Jake 'en Abe. We always call 'em Big Little 'en Cross-eyed Little; 'en then thars Henderson,—I'd never hardly think o' his name 'til I saw his red head comin' in."

"Well, here's the pillow, an' don't you forget to warn the gal 'bout tomorrow. Oh, sa-ay! You might leave her in charge o' Muggins—he lowed today he didn't think shucks o' no fire drill."

Harry chuckled and answered "Thet so? He told me this morning to put his bottle 'o rum one side so's the boys couldn't get it, 'en I expect nothing else but he'll be sittin' there all day playin' thet doggone game of dominoes with the dummy hand, an' cussin' and swearin' as usual if the dummy hand beats him. He don't seem to take interest in nothin' else;—en it do look curious like."

"Do you think that Muggins may be done a murder an' he's tryin' to forgit his nat'ral social feelin's, so to speak?"

"Naw! Jis murder wouldn't make a man act like thet," Joe looked very wise. "Naw, it must a' been somethin' a good deal more serious, I believe!"

The next day the long looked for fire drill took place, and the little old town prinked up and did her best to look spry and enterprising. Lively it certainly was—by noon there were more than a dozen men shouting drunk; by four o'clock the dozen had increased to at least one hundred; by sundown there were not enough sober ones left to count the victims of King Alcohol; and by midnight the whole place was bedlam itself. A few of the rougher women joined in this mode of celebration, and it is related that one man going home wearily before he had entirely lost control of his own equilibrium, had found the town butcher and his wife lying full length in a deep ditch, but side by side and passing and repassing a fat black flask as if their connubial happiness and content were an example to all mankind. The better class of women, however, stayed close in their homes and listened, listened, listened! Some prayed; but with many their very thoughts were dumb. There was a sort of grim satire in the fact that no real fire in the town had ever stirred such terror in the minds of its women as the fear of unknown deeds this night would see accomplished. The fire in "Blue Shirt" was not of the kind where fire engines are useful.

Milly Lawson, the blind guest of the rough railroad hotel, had been served with her meals in her room very much to her astonishment; but that was the only way that had suggested itself to Harry to protect her from the scenes downstairs.

Muggins was playing the game from which he had taken his name a little after midnight when Harry turned quickly from the bar and slammed the door between the noisy smoke thickened atmosphere and the little back room where Muggins usually sat. In the other door way leading from the hall stood a slight figure bending slightly forward with hands clasped in almost painful intensity.

Muggins looked up for a second and said, "I'm blamed glad you closed that door; can't yer clear them cattle out o' the bar? They are gettin' too gol-darned full fer even a fool to see any fun in 'em any longer."

At the sound of his voice, a convulsive tremor ran through Milly's frame and she pushed forward into the room. At sight of her Muggins smothered an unholy expression and flung all his dominoes topsy turvy on the table, the noise drowning his almost unconscious words. In a low and sweet but painfully anxious voice Milly asked:

"Landlord, are you there?"

Harry answered at once, "Yes, young lady, right here."

"Who was that I heard talking to you in this room a few minutes ago?"

Harry was so astonished that in spite of Muggins' furious efforts at sign language, he replied:

"Why, that war Muggins!"

"But what other name has he? I would give the world to know."

Harry was almost choked by a heavy hand on his collar, and paper was thrust before him on which was written "ask her 'why'."

The question was put and she came forward eagerly almost touching Muggins as she passed him.

"Oh, because his voice was the voice of one who was once very dear to me; one whom I have not met in six years; and even now, if I should find him, I will never see for I became blind just after the last time he ever came to visit me." Harry looked uneasily at Muggins but he shook his head. Poor Milly continued, "Oh, gentlemen, please forgive me and understand. My story is too long to tell, but we who are blind have certain intuitions that we can't explain; I have come here guided only by that inner light, and if the voice heard in this

room tonight is indeed the voice of John Thornton, then I beg of him in the name of the past to speak to me." A terrible struggle seemed to be going on in the soul of Muggins—his face was ghastly with the effort to control himself. Milly fumbled a little at her breast and pulled out a letter yellow and faded. "See! here is the last letter he ever sent me, and I got it just as they told me of some awful trouble that had come to John; they frightened me so with what they told me that I upset some acid I had been using in my work—I was assistant to a photographer—there was a blaze—I knew nothing for weeks—and when I recovered I was blind. I feared what secrets he might have told me in the letter, and it has never been read—" her voice was almost a wail now—"oh, John, don't try to deny yourself to me. For six years I have carried this letter not knowing what was in it, trying to guess the dear words I could not see; and yet—they said such cruel things that I dared not let other eyes than yours read it for me."

A sudden great relief dawned in Muggins' face and with one leap he caught girl, letter and all in his sturdy arms. "Milly, Milly; my Milly! and you never read my letter. I understand now! Yes, girl, I was in trouble, and in that letter I told you how to help me out; certain delicate business of my firm that I would trust to no one else. When the help did not come, I thought you had turned against me; and they told me infernal lies, too, and I had no chance of finding out the truth for I was sent to—jail! I am a jail-bird, Milly!" And he tried to unloosen her clinging arms. But she only nestled closer and whispered:

"Your jail time is past, dear, but mine will never be over until I open my eyes in the world beyond. And, oh, John, I want a good kind dear jailer while I'm here—"

"Milly, don't! Would to God I were half good enough—"

"You are good enough to take care of me, and—and to read my letters!"

But that seemed to Harry sacred work, the reading of this much-belated love letter. He sneaked around by the hall and into the bar quite unmissed by Muggins and Milly. With a look of surprised importance as if he had been assisting at some weird rendezvous, he quickly cleared the place of the besotted left-overs of the wholesale spree; and, pouring out a generous drink for himself he bowed gravely toward the inner room, and said impressively:

"Wal, here's to 'em! I've allus heard thet spooks and spirits in general gits uncommon active when thars plenty o' booze about. En if thet was the cause o' bringin' that gal here tonight—she seemed to feel some queer infloosence—I'm blamed ef it wasn't worth while fer thet bull town ter git drunk."

Thos. Hunt Stucky, M. D., Louisville, Ky., says: When we take into consideration the many kinds of headaches and look back upon their treatment for the past twenty years, one fact becomes evident and that is that anti-kamnia tablets have in a great measure displaced all other remedies in treating these troubles.—Western Medical Journal.

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## Heart Disease

choking sensation in throat; oppressed feeling in chest; cold hands and feet; painful to lie on left side; dropsy; swelling of the feet or ankles (one of the surest signs); neuralgia around the heart; sudden deaths rarely result from other causes.

They will restore you to health and strength as they have hundreds of other men and women.

FREE To prove how absolutely I believe in them, to prove that they will do exactly what I say, I will send a box free to any name and address sent me. One trial will do more to convince you than any amount of talk. It will cost you nothing, and may save your life. Send for a trial box and enclose stamp for postage.

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FREE FOR A CLUB OF FOUR.

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A new remedy has been discovered that is odorless and tasteless can be mixed with coffee or food and when taken into the system a man cannot use tobacco in any form. It will cure even the confirmed cigarette fiend and is a God-send to mothers who have growing boys addicted to the smoking of cigarettes. A free trial package of the remedy will be mailed prepaid upon application to Rogers Drug & Chemical Co., 2267 Fifth and Race Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio. This will enable any woman to drive foul tobacco smoke and dirty spittoons from the home.

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We will send to one in each county our new invented, self-supported Truss, free of any charge, and cure your rupture in three months. The only painless, positive and permanent REMEDY FOR RUPTURE. CURE in the world. Periman Drug Co., 24 Lees Bldg., Chicago.

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IF YOU LIVE more than 200 miles from Chicago, each in full, \$5.95 must accompany your order, with the understanding that it will be immediately returned to you if the suit is not found perfectly satisfactory, all and MORE THAN WE CLAIM FOR IT.

THIS SUIT is made from an extra quality of all wool English Waterproof Mackintosh Cloth, and comes in tan or handsome black broadcloth as desired. Be sure to state color wanted. THE CAPE is lined with extra quality of waterproof lining, double breasted, wide facing, full waist, teal back, velvet collar, pearl buttons, inlaid epaulettes in back. THE SKIRT, latest style, adjustable at waist, plaid lining, sizes to fit a waist from 20 to 30 inches. Buttoned on the sides, buttons concealed by deep fly. Can be worn in place of or over an ordinary skirt. A very fashionable suit for rainy, sloppy and nasty weather. \$3.95 DOES NOT BEGIN TO COVER THE FIRST COST OF THE MATERIAL. We have 800 of these suits to close out at the astonishingly low price of \$3.95. Order today. Be sure to send delay.

Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.



## Taps.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY F. E. BURNHAM.

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SOMEWHERE along the dusty roads of Cuba the regiment picked up Nuenzes, a dark-skinned little Cuban boy. For a month he marched with the soldiers and shared their lot, smiling where the soldiers swore, and content to follow the regiment to the ends of the earth. The time that he was with the regiment was short, but during those days he endeared himself to every man, and there were few dry eyes when it was learned that "Taps," as he was called, owing to his fondness for that military farewell, was no more, and that shortly would taps be sounded above his little, emaciated body.

Those were trying days for the Northern soldier, unaccustomed as he was to the fierce, tropical sun, and many of the boys dropped by the roadside to rest for a few moments, hurrying along shortly to catch up with the regiment. It was at such times that "Taps" endeared himself to the soldiers, dropping behind with the exhausted comrade and making himself generally useful by pouring from his rusty canteen, which one of the boys had given him, a generous drink of water, loosening the shirt-front, the while fanning vigorously with a curious little fan which he had woven from native grasses and leaves.

One morning a soldier fainted, and as the regiment passed on, "Taps" knelt beside the prostrate form. As the men marched by they little thought that it was to be the last time that they would witness that little act of this unrecognized soldier of the Red Cross, but it was, for there is always a last time, and the men learned the truth within twenty-four hours.

An hour passed and the fallen comrade failed to overtake his company, and a mounted surgeon was sent to look after the man. Two hours later he returned—alone; said that there was no trace of the soldier and "Taps," save the telltale marks of a scuffle in the deep dust of the road.

The regiment marched on, but the surgeon's report cast a shadow which checked merriment and jest for the remainder of the day. With "Taps" absent, it seemed almost as though they had lost their flag, or their colonel.

That night the soldiers pitched camp on a rising piece of ground twenty miles from the point where "Taps" was last seen. Sentries were posted and presently all was quiet for the night, no sound being heard save the frogs and night-birds and the deep breathing of hundreds of footsore soldiers.

Suddenly one of the sentries was heard to challenge an advancing figure. Either the intruder failed to hear, or understand the challenge, for he pressed on through the thicket. There was a flash and report, and a dull thud told that the sentinel's aim had been true. A moment later an agonized cry brought officers and men from their quarters even more quickly than the report of the rifle alone. They found the sentinel kneeling by the side of an unconscious little form, and by the light of a match they learned that "Taps" had returned—returned to be shot.

The boy thrust his hand mechanically into his pocket and drew out a bit of paper. He was unconscious, but the mind was active in a measure, and as he held it out in his trembling hand, he looked appealingly from one to another, striving the while to speak.

The Colonel seized the paper and read for an instant and his face paled perceptibly.

"Taps and I are prisoners," read the note, "but hope to see him free by dusk. There is a large force of Spaniards following you, intent upon striking a blow by daybreak. Be ready for them. JOHNSON."

Steps were taken at once to give the enemy a warm reception and shortly before sunrise the Spaniards made an attack only to be repulsed and driven back in disorder. It was they who were surprised, not the Americans as they had anticipated.

As the rifle shots died away in the distance and the boys in blue returned to camp, "Taps" opened his eyes in a questioning sort of way, and placing his right hand before his mouth much as the bugler would have done, painfully moved his fingers up and down, the lips moved convulsively as though trying to utter a word. There was a moment of silence and then the tongue was loosed.

"Play taps," he said, and there was something so strangely pathetic about it that those who heard found a great lump rising in their throats.

There was a call for Holden, the bugler, and a moment later he appeared with his horn. Then, while the boys in blue gathered about the tent where the little sufferer was lying, Holden raised the bugle to his lips. He was very white and tears were blinding his eyes, but somehow he managed to play the pathetic little melody as he had never played it before, and as the tones floated over across the neighboring river the hills of Cuba echoed and re-echoed, and as the last faint answer came back "Taps" passed away. It was a scene never to be forgotten, and of those gathered about there was not one with dry eyes; they all cried and they were not ashamed of it, either.

A lonely little grave was dug there on the hillside overlooking the river and as the little hero was tenderly placed therein, taps was sounded again. Shortly was the regiment on the march again, but the memory of that morning's sad scenes remained with the men for hours and days. It was one of life's tragedies that time cannot readily efface.

## Famous Days Kept by College Girls.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



VASSAR has celebrated Founder's Day and Philalethean since its earliest annals, and to the Vassar girl no other occasions arouse quite so much anticipation and enjoyment. Philalethean is the oldest of the College societies, founded less than three months after the establishment of the seat of learning in 1865, and Philalethean Day, coming the first week in December, is its birthday festival, kept with formality and gay merry-making. The committee is busy for days beforehand, and the corridors and reception rooms are bright with decorations and Vassar's colors, pink and gray, when the guests assemble at night and proceed to the chapel where the exercises occur, the society's president, a prominent senior, making the address of welcome, followed by some distinguished man, the speaker of the evening. At the close comes supper, with music and dancing in the long dancing hall of the main building. The next day continues the festivities, the girls giving teas and chafing dish parties, or Mrs. Kendrick, the lady principal, a reception, and the Glee Club a concert.

On Founder's day, falling upon April 29, the date when Matthew Vassar was born, the programme is much the same as on "Phil," as the girls call it in college parlance. There is a crush of friends and relatives, the young hostesses are charming in their dainty gowns, and to the outsider the romance of college life is revealed.

Field Day in the spring shows the prowess of the college athletes who do not pretend to rival their muscular colleagues at Harvard or Yale in making or breaking records, but they show how physical training can promote systematic development of limbs and muscles, making the movements graceful and their bearing erect. Very agile are the young collegians as they enter with spirit the long list of events—hurdle races, 100 yard dash, running high jump, fence vault and a dozen more. "The Circle," Vassar's athletic field, is alive with friends and undergraduates, no men being allowed upon the scene, who cheer and sing and wave college or class colors, as the plucky winners take their laurels.

Basket-ball Day at Smith College is one of the greatest of athletic events in feminine college circles, also the "gym" is packed with faculty, a few fortunate visitors, and students who take possession of the gallery, freshmen and juniors on one side, sophomore and seniors on the other, armed with banners, pennants and gay streamers which they flourish with wildest enthusiasm, as the teams make good plays. The game is called for half past three o'clock, but nearly two hours before the long lines begin to form outside the two doors of the gymnasium waiting for them to open, as there are no reserved seats. As soon as the jolly crowd has made its way to the gallery, the singing begins, the verses written by members of the two younger classes set to popular airs, such as:

"We're here to beat you,  
But not to cheat you.  
We'll play a game that's truly fair  
Yet of us you'd best beware,  
For you'll rue it  
If you don't do it  
For we're the class of old Smith College."

Or to the tune of "Pop Goes the Weasel" ran a 1903 song:

"To the center flies the ball.  
How they jump to grasp it!  
Over now to Nineteen-Two  
Near to the Basket."

As President Seelye comes in, diplomatically wearing the colors of both contending classes, they greet him with: "Here's to you, President Seelye."

"Here's to you, our warmest friend  
And we sing before this care forsaken company  
We sing before we part."

As each member of the faculty appears he or she is hailed with some appropriate musical lines and much clapping of hands. Then the



BASKET-BALL.

masochists are brought upon the scene. This year the freshmen borrowed a little child and dragged him in on the back of a marvelous wooden quadruped decked with the class purple, while the sophomore team raced about the gymnasium a frisky black kid brilliant in daffodil trappings, amid the cheers and laughter of the thousand hilarious collegians. Every telling point is vociferously noted; finally the score is proclaimed and the victorious captain raised on the shoulders of the triumphant team as the conquering heroine of the day.

The rally in the gymnasium at Smith on Washington's birthday is almost as wildly exciting as the Basket-ball contest, but Mountain Day in the autumn and Decoration Day in May prove quieter anniversaries when the students go off on long tramps or drive to picnic on neighboring Mount Tom, Nanotuck or Sugar Loaf and return at night tired but happy.

Mount Holyoke College has a Mountain Day, too, when the whole household spends the hours adrift in the pretty country surrounding South Hadley, often forming parties to climb Mount Holyoke and visit the Notch on the road to Amherst College. The botany and geology students study specimens and formations, coming home laden with red leaves and berries and garlands of fluffy clematis which serve to decorate their rooms.

The championship tennis tournament brings

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Editor's Note.—This splendid free offer to our readers is genuine, and we hope every sufferer will write the Doctor at once.

the friends of Bryn Mawr College out from Philadelphia in the fall to watch the fine work done by the four classes, but the out door basket ball contest in the spring is the notable occasion when all the college world troops out to the broad athletic field and exhibits a surprising amount of interest. Songs and cries rend the air, class colors wave, and every one is as jolly and happy as possible. Ice cream, lemonade and other goodies are disposed of by energetic under-graduates for the benefit of the Athletic Association. A handsome silver cup is the trophy fought for; any class winning it three times in succession becomes its permanent owner.

The Woman's College of Baltimore opens its athletic season in the fall with the tennis battle between picked players from the freshman and sophomore classes. This always proves a memorable day, the seniors acting as allies of the sophomores, the juniors aiding and abetting the newest class. But the two days of special note are College Day and Alto Dale Day, one happening on November seventeenth, and enjoyed by guests as well as students, the other the last day of May or first of June when professors and students only go out to President Goucher's country home, "Alto Dale," beyond Baltimore, for the most ideal day of the college year. In the afternoon they depart in chartered cars to sup and pass the evening in gaiety and good cheer. The beautiful grounds are hung with Chinese lanterns and lighted by great torches of pitch and pine.

Tree Day and Float Day rank as Wellesley's occasions for excellence, the former an exclusive affair to which no outsider is supposed to be admitted, the latter a public water pageant, friends from far and near coming to view the picturesque aquatic fete. Both occur in June. Tree Day about the first week, the three lower classes dressed in fancy costume, the seniors maintaining the college dignity in cap and gown. Literary exercises, singing and dancing form the programme, all on the broad campus, the gay, fantastic procession winding in and out across its velvety turf.

On "Float" the crews from the four classes give an exhibition in skill and good form, the young oarsmen making a fine showing in the long shells and rowing like crack sportsmen with long even stroke. When they have gone through their evolutions they form the traditional star in the center of Lake Waban and sing their college and boating songs, while colored lights flash out from the shore, and myriad Japanese lanterns, and the thousands of spectators cheer with great show of enthusiasm.

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805-wire, 806-wire, 807-wire, 808-wire, 809-wire, 810-wire, 811-wire, 812-wire, 813-wire, 814-wire, 815-wire, 816-wire, 817-wire, 818-wire, 819-wire, 820-wire, 821-wire



Ancient Playing Cards.



THE origin of playing cards is shrouded in mystery. Where and by whom they were first invented it is impossible to state. They are supposed to have been brought to Europe from the Orient. An Italian record speaks of them as having come from the Saracens, who in turn were thought to have learned of them from the inhabitants of Hindustan. Some facsimiles of these early Hindustan cards have been preserved, and are spoken of in an early record as being engraved on plates of ivory.

Playing cards are known to have been made in China from engraved blocks before they were known of in Europe. In other records their introduction into Europe has been attributed to the Moors, to the eastern Jews who traded on the shores of the Mediterranean, and to eastern gypsies, who made their appearance in Germany.

The earliest mention of playing cards in Europe is in a decree published in 1240, in which their use was prohibited by the clergy, though it is not sure that this game of "king and queen" mentioned was a real game of cards. In 1291 in Germany the Emperor Rudolph is described as amusing himself by playing cards. In the middle of the 15th century, cards are mentioned by a Dominican friar as having been introduced into Germany in 1300, and he moreover describes the game as "right deceitful."

In 1441 the senate of Venice issued a decree in which the business of making playing cards is described as falling into disuse on account of foreign competitors, and forbidding the importation of them. An old chronicle describes some playing cards made in Venice at about the time of this decree as printed on thick paper and elaborately gilded and decorated. Evidently the Venetian cards were much more expensive than those of German make, and it is known that at this time the town of Ulm in Germany had a large trade in cards with towns on the Mediterranean and Adriatic.

Records in regard to this subject are very meagre, and all the information has been gathered by authorities from casual references in old manuscripts. Cards may have been made in other European countries as early as they were in Italy and Germany, but of this we have no certain information. They were in common use in many parts of Europe at the beginning of the 15th century. In the British Museum is preserved a set of forty-eight playing cards, which were found printed on six sheets of paper, eight cards to a sheet, in the inner lining of an old book-cover which was made by some unknown printer before the year 1500. They are probably the oldest pack of cards in existence. Printed on cheap coarse paper, and rudely colored with a stencil in dull green and red, they were probably made to sell cheap to the common people, a fact still further shown by the rudeness of the engraver's work. (See illustration.)

In a French romance written in 1328 there is a bit of poetry attending to the folly of games of dice, checkers and cards. Other writers claim 1350 and 1376 as the date of their introduction into France, but there is not much evidence confirming their statements. The first reliable mention of playing cards in France is found in an old account book of the year 1392 kept by the treasurer of Charles VI. in which fifty-six sols, or about \$30, are paid for three packs of cards "gilded, colored and ornamented with various designs," for the amusement of the king.

Charles VI. had had his mind affected by sunstroke and these cards were provided to amuse him. In the National Library at Paris, seventeen of these cards are preserved but some authorities claim that the workmanship indicates a later date. Here also are preserved the relics of another pack of cards which were probably made during the reign of Charles VII. They are especially interesting. One of the queens is a representation of Marie of Anjou, while one of the kings is represented as a hairy savage, and is a reminder of a terrible accident that occurred during the reign of Charles VI. in 1392.

A masquerade had been arranged in honor of the king, at which Charles VI. and five of his courtiers appeared as savages. They were dressed in tight-fitting suits of linen, covered with pitch and tow, and linked together with chains they danced in the ball-room. The Duke of Orleans, wishing to discover the identity of one of the maskers, held a torch too near and immediately his costume was a blaze. The king was rescued, but four of his companions were burned to death.

However and wherever cards were invented they at once became extremely popular with all classes of society. The Duke of Milan, we are told, was accustomed to play with cards elaborately painted on ivory by renowned artists. Flemish nobles tempted fortune with cards engraved on silver plates, while the common people of France and Spain, Italy and Germany, were all diverting themselves with greasy packs of cards printed or stencilled on coarse paper.

The evil results of the game were at once noticed by the rulers and the church officers. In 1404 the clergy were forbidden to play cards. In 1323 St. Bernard preached against card games from the steps of St. Peter's church, and with such good effect that his hearers ran to their homes, and bringing forth all the cards, dice, and other gambling games that they owned, burned them in the public square. We are told that a maker of cards went to the saint in tears and said:

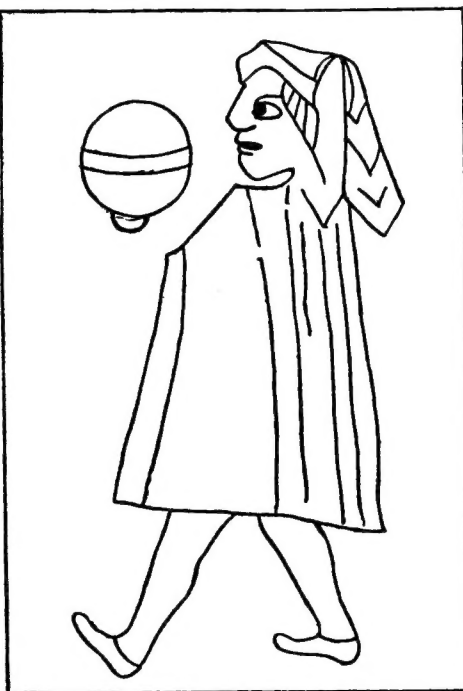
"Father, I am a card-maker, and know no other trade. You have forbidden me to make cards and consequently have condemned me to die of starvation."

To this St. Bernard replied: "If you know how to paint, paint this image," showing him the figure of Christ with the monogram I. H. S. in a halo of glory. This the card-maker did, virtue had proper reward, and he became very wealthy, for religious prints were at that time bought as eagerly as playing cards.

Other monks and priests preached against playing cards but without other than temporary result, for by the end of the fifteenth century they were more popular than ever. The moralists then tried instead of abolishing the game to make it a means of instruction instead of a mere amusement. In an Italian library is preserved a pack of fifty engraved cards which bear the date 1485. It is divided into five suits of ten cards each. The first represents the various conditions of men from the pope to the beggar, the second suit con-

tains the nine muses, with Apollo added to make up the proper number, the third illustrates the different branches of learning from grammar to theology, the fourth cardinal virtues such as justice and prudence; and the fifth the heavenly bodies.

Another pack of cards was made up to convey solemn religious truths in the form of a game of life and death, though we have no description of how this game was played. In the



PLAYING CARDS OF 15th CENTURY.

latter part of the fifteenth century, cards were made in Italy with figures representing the four great monarchies of the ancient world. Marks on these cards indicated the four classes of society; hearts for the clergy, spades (from the Italian word spada, a sword) for the nobles, clubs for the peasants; and diamonds for the burghers or citizens.

A German professor in 1507 undertook to make use of playing cards for teaching high scholastic science and published a book explaining his game. The cards were piled with mysterious symbols intended as keys to the entire art of reasoning. German artists undertook to improve and modify the designs on playing cards, but though they produced handsome engravings they never became popular as the old designs. None of the innovations in cards, either in designs or ways of playing were popular. People then, as now played for amusement and not for instruction. The cards have come down to us practically unchanged. Even the stiff conventional forms of drawing are still preferred by players.

Although playing-cards led to gambling, their general use was not an unmixed evil at the time of their introduction. They were a means of education to the common people at a time when education was sorely needed. The average man of the Dark Ages could not have been persuaded to learn his letters, but was attracted by cards, and took the trouble to learn the games. In playing his mind was trained to a use of its reasoning faculties, and there must have been something of respect for written or printed symbols. This would naturally lead to a desire to know something of books, and in this way playing cards helped materially to awaken an interest in literature, which had lain dormant for 600 years.

Americans and Stratford-on-Avon.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



"Aoww," she would say, "but you don't want to bathe in 'ot water in 'ot weather, do you?"

The high shouldered and snuffy indifference to Shakespeare displayed by our Warwick landlady was in marked contrast to the feelings of the little woman in Stratford with whom we took lodgings a few days later. Had we breathed one word against the source of her inspiration—and income—I think she would have put us out of the house, bags and baggage, or rather, lugs and luggage, for no one has baggage in England.

We had not been long in Stratford before we declared the Warwick landlady to be right in one particular. However much the English love and reverence the memory of their great countryman, the Americans assuredly have done their part to make, as she said, a fuss over him.

Everywhere the traveler sees evidence of American talent, American money, American enterprise.

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I have no samples. Any medicine that can affect Rheumatism with but a few doses must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs. It is folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.

Long ago our own Washington Irving wrote about Shakespeare and Stratford while sitting in the parlor of the Red Horse inn. His description has never been surpassed by later writers. The room where he wielded his pen is kept in the same order as on that night when he sat enthroned in the arm-chair with the poker for a sceptre. Since then, thousands of Americans have registered at the hotel and in the visitors' book at the church of Holy Trinity. They keep a separate book for Americans at the church and the verger knows where your name belongs as soon as you appear in the doorway. All vergers are equally wise. There is no need to wait for the tell-tale accent. They recognize the general air of our countrymen as far as their eye can reach.

More than one-fourth of the number of pilgrims to Stratford are Americans and they have made many substantial gifts to the town. One of these is the beautiful water fountain and clock tower shown in our initial illustration, erected in the jubilee reign of the late Queen Victoria. It is fifty feet high and has English and American emblems grouped together on the stone carvings. Shakespeare himself furnished the particularly appropriate inscriptions. One reads:

"Honest water which ne'er left man i' the mire."

Another is:

"In her day every man shall eat in safety Under his own vine, what he plants; and sing The merry songs of peace to all his neighbors. God shall be truly known; and those about her From her shall read the perfect ways of honour And by those claim their greatness, not by blood."

This is a very graceful quotation in reference to the fiftieth anniversary of the late Queen's reign. Many good things already have come to pass as it is written, but we still wait to hear the merry songs of peace among our neighbors—and ourselves.

In the church of Holy Trinity there are two stained glass windows given by Americans. The light from one falls over the grave where the epitaph reads:

"Good friends for Jesus sake forbear To dig the dust enclosed here; Bleste be ye man yt spares these stones And curst be he yt moves my bones."

The bust of Shakespeare is placed in the wall above grave and epitaph. The face seems as free from furrowed thought lines as the head is destitute of hair—on top. Down in the Memorial library among the curios we saw a smooth, round, bald-headed egg. It was painted with the portrait of Shakespeare. On



BIRTHPLACE OF SHAKESPEARE.

it was written: "An eggsact likeness the most eggcellent in eggistence." And so it is.

Since the death of Shakespeare, one change after another has taken place in his portraits, the growth of hair and thought lines being especially noticeable. The bust in the niche, like the egg in the library, gives the impression of a happy-go-lucky Will, not the scholarly, elegant looking gentleman sometimes seen in the pictures of today.

The practical interest taken in the birthplace of Shakespeare by that energetic American, P. T. Barnum, resulted in lasting benefit to the English people. The great showman proposed to buy the Shakespeare house and set it up in America. Our English cousins at once bought the place themselves, and gave it to their nation.

If it had been taken to this country every nail and splinter would have been lugged away by relic hunters—so they tell us. Perhaps they are right. Certainly they have to keep a sharp lookout as it is. A very bare little place after all, with not so many mementoes as one would expect. The back garden was delightful; filled with pansies and wild thyme and the other flowers and shrubs that the great dramatist wrote about and knew.

On High street there is a fine-timbered building with a carved front, from an architectural point of view far more worthy of importation than is Shakespeare's birthplace. We did better than take the house. We took the man. It is called the Harvard house and was built by the grandfather of the one who came to this country, in her earlier days, and founded our first college—John Harvard.

Stratford is a lovely old town and would well repay a visit, without its associations. One of

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the prettiest of views is the church of Holy Trinity, with the river Avon flowing by. The spire rises above the trees whose branches dip into the water over the low stone wall. The sheep graze in the meadow opposite and the cows wander down to the water's edge to drink. Rest and quiet and peace are here—a typical English landscape.



HE first fire-engine we know anything about was mentioned about 150 B. C. in an ancient manuscript. The early Romans appear to have organized quite a fire-brigade to which they devoted considerable attention. In England, during the latter part of the sixteenth century,

large brass syringes holding several quarts of water each, were used in fighting fire. As it required three men to work one of these and as they had to be refilled every few minutes, they must have been of doubtful value in case of fire.

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## The Greatest Church in America.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



W E read how, back in the days when Rome was mistress of the world, the early Christians often worshiped of necessity in the Catacombs and in cellars, that their lives might not be paid as a penalty for their faith.

It will be news to many people in the United States to know that there is a place in this country, twenty centuries after Rome, where religious services are held every Sunday in a subterranean room whose low arched ceiling and walls of massive masonry resemble nothing so much as one of those old-time hiding places.

This underground church, though, is not designed as a place of concealment. It is the crypt—all that is finished yet—of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, in New York City, which, when it is completed, will be far and away the greatest church on the Eastern Continent.

It has long been said that America has no cathedrals which begin to compare with those of Europe, and the charge is true. America has been too young a country. We have lived in too great haste. A really great cathedral cannot be built in a year. Although modern engineering might lay one on another the stones which compose the wall, it seems to me as if there must go into the building a feeling of reverence which can only come with time.

The Episcopal Church proposes to build such a cathedral in New York. The work has been going on for four or five years, and the foundations are not all laid yet. It will be four or five years more before the first part of the building proper to be completed—the choir—will be so far advanced that services can be held in it. The time when the building of the great nave will be begun is not yet even predicted.

feet in width across the transepts. The greatest church in New York, up to this time, the superbly beautiful Catholic Cathedral on Fifth Avenue, is less than half that size. The great central spire of the Cathedral will rise to a height of 445 feet. One Bunker Hill Monument could be set on top of another, and yet the pinnacle of the spire would overtop them.

The grandeur of the completed structure will be greatly enhanced from its lofty site on that rocky ridge in the upper part of New York which separates the Harlem river from the Hudson. The site itself is visible from almost any part of the city. Imagine the effect of a church almost five hundred feet high in such a location. Its nearest neighbor is the beautiful building of St. Luke's Hospital. At only a little distance, on the other side, are the Grant Tomb and the magnificent dome-surmounted library of Columbia University.

All that has been completed of the work as yet is the foundation for the great central tower, one of the enormous central arches, and a portion of the foundations for the choir. Although it would look to the chance observer as if the site itself was solid rock, the weight of the walls of the structure will be so tremendous that it was necessary to go down in some places as far as seventy feet into the rock before a foundation was secured which was absolutely satisfactory. The one arch which has been completed is 145 feet high. It is the biggest arch in the United States. Three others of equal size will be built, forming with this a square. From the top of each of these, three smaller arches will spring, and on them the huge central spire will rest. The one arch now standing is wonderfully impressive, especially if one sees it from the city, late in the afternoon, outlined against a glowing western sky.

All the stone work so far has been of massive gray granite, but when the building is completed all of the stone work which shows now will be hidden. The interior of the building is to be lined with a light brown sandstone, rich in color and admitting of elaborate carving. The stone with which the exterior of the building will be covered has not yet been decided on.

The crypt, in which services are held now, is at the base of the great spire. As finished now it is 54 feet square, and 18 feet high in the highest part of the low arched ceiling. Entrance to it is by going down a broad flight of stone steps and through a gloomy passageway. The walls are the tremendous piles of granite which by and by are to support the central tower, rising 445 feet above them.

The building of the ceiling of this room, a very flat double arch with no supporting pillars, was a very difficult piece of work. It is said there is only one man in America who could have done it. This man was a Spaniard.

A contract was made with him to do the work and all through the summer when the Spanish War was being waged this man was at work on this ceiling, having for his helpers a company of Cubans whom he had brought to this country for that purpose because they understood the work.

Three services are held in the crypt each Sunday. Those in the morning and in the afternoon are the regular cathedral services. At 11 o'clock in the forenoon the Church of



CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE.

the Archangel holds service there. I have frequently attended the services. Underground as it is, few churches are so imposing. The crypt seats 440 persons. It has a superb pipe organ. The rough gray stone walls are hidden in some places by almost priceless tapestries brought from the Bamerini Palace, in Italy. They are 250 years old, and are given to the cathedral by a New York woman.

Visitors to the World's Fair, at Chicago, will remember the wonderful chapel which the Tiffany Company exhibited there as the crowning effort of the best which their art could produce. That chapel was bought by a mother and given to the cathedral as a testimonial to her dead son. Oddly enough—and showing

something of the feeling that St. John the Divine is to be not New York's alone, but the nation's—this woman is not even a resident of New York, but of Chicago.

The price paid for the chapel was \$50,000. Not all of it can be accommodated in the crypt at present, but when the foundations of the choir are completed, what is now the east end of the crypt is extended to the limit of the choir, and ample room will be afforded for all the material, each fragment of which is almost a jewel in itself.

The altar, a part of the original chapel—is of mosaic work in light colored stones set with gold. The material is cut and set in small square pieces, and there are 150,000 of these pieces in all. Just in the middle of the front of the altar is an elaborate circle, about eighteen inches in diameter. There are between 4,000 and 5,000 pieces in this one circle, and it took one man six weeks to make it. The background of arches behind this altar is of similar mosaics, but of darker stone. The design shows two peacocks upholding a crown. The arches are upheld and flanked by twelve columns, set with the same dark mosaics, in cruciform design. There are 200,000 pieces of stone in the pillars. The reading desk and the baptismal font are of light stone and gold. Wherever gold is used it is set between two little squares of glass, to preserve it from the atmosphere. Set in this way it will never tarnish. Three hanging lamps of indescribable richness and beauty are suspended where their rays are shed down on to the altar.

The part of the cathedral which is called the choir is shaped like a horseshoe. When this is complete it will seat 4,000 or 5,000 worshippers. The capacity of the whole cathedral, when completed, has never been estimated, so far as I have learned. Around the choir and opening from it, are to be built seven chapels, small in comparison with the rest of the building, but each one as large as a small church. It is said that services in seven different languages are to be held in them. The first of these to be completed will be the central one. This is to be called the Belmont Chapel, because a large sum of money has been given by a member of the famous New York family of that name to build this as a memorial.

Too few people who go to New York City visit the cathedral of St. John the Divine. Hardly begun as the foundations are yet, the work is one of the most interesting sights not only in New York, but in America. The crypt is open to the public three afternoons in the week, with an attendant to explain the work, and visitors who cannot come upon the regular days can easily arrange with the attendant to be admitted at some other time.

If you go to New York, do not miss seeing the greatest church in America.



## The Schley Court of Inquiry.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HISTORIAN MACLAY.

A man sometimes leaps into fame, or notoriety, at one bound. Such seems to be the case of one Maclay, whose only title to fame, heretofore, was the fact that he held some civil position in the Brooklyn navy yard. It seems that he has been writing a history, and that the same was used in the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. When the third volume recently appeared it was found to contain most serious reflections on

Admiral Schley, who fought the great sea fight by which Admiral Cervera's Spanish fleet was pounded into wrecks that actually have not even value as waste iron.

But before explaining the present Court of Inquiry let us take a brief glance at its cause. It is openly charged that the routine officials at the Navy Department have for years formed an autocratic clique which has made or unmade naval officers at will. Favoritism, social relations and political pull have given favored positions to many, while conspicuous merit and bravery would go unrewarded unless the man would humiliate himself before this coterie of government clerks and society sailors. These very people banished, as they thought, George Dewey to China, only in reality to give him the opportunity to win Manila for America.

In fact this inner circle are said to have rewarded unsparringly those in their good graces, while independence of character and manliness seemed to provoke their antagonism. This state of affairs had grown worse and worse ever since the close of our Civil war up to the time of the Spanish war four years ago.

In the early days of the Spanish American war a fleet under Commodore Schley, known as the Flying Squadron, rendezvoused at Fortress Monroe. Meantime a very strong Spanish fleet under Admiral Cervera had been dispatched from Spain on a secret mission, which was believed to be the destruction of an American city on the Atlantic coast. To cut a long story short, we all remember the great fight and how from that time the matter has developed. The story of the war was told in COMFORT at the time; and we will now only give the immediate cause and history of the present Court of Inquiry which was called to meet in Washington on September 12th.

It will be recalled that soon after naval operations were over friends of the present rear admirals, Sampson and Schley, urged their respective claims to promotion with a great deal of warmth, and that action upon the advancement not only of the parties most prominent, but of their brother officers entitled to promotion for bravery and excellent service was delayed in consequence. It is not necessary to more than allude to the deep feeling which has since developed, the events are so recent and so well known. Neither Sampson nor Schley had taken official cognizance of reports and even charges against their characters, and nearly three years elapsed before such action was taken. When, however, in the third volume of Maclay's "History of the Navy" passages occurred reflecting severely upon Rear Admiral Schley's conduct, he felt impelled to seek a vindication in the following letter to the secretary of the navy:



ADMIRAL SCHLEY.

GREAT NECK, N. Y., July 22, 1901.

Sir.—Within the last few days a series of press comments have been sent to me from various parts of the country of a book entitled "The History of the Navy," written by one Edgar Stanton Maclay. From these reviews it appears that this edition is a third volume of the said history, extended to include the war with Spain, which the first two volumes did not contain, and were in use as textbooks at the Naval Academy.

From excerpts quoted in some reviews, in which the page and paragraph are given, there is such perversion of facts, misconstruction of intention, such intemperate abuse and defamation of myself, which subjects Mr. Maclay to action in civil law. While I admit the right of fair criticism of every public officer, I must protest against the low flings and abusive language of this violent, partisan opponent, who has infused into the pages of his book so much of the malice of unfairness as to make it unworthy the name of history or of use in any reputable institution of the country.

I have refrained heretofore from all comment upon the innuendoes of enemies muttered or murmured in secret and therefore with safety to themselves. I think the time has now come to take such action as may bring this entire matter under discussion under the clearer and calmer review of my brothers in arms, and to this end I ask such action at the hands of the department as it may deem best to accomplish this purpose.

But I would express the request in this connection that whatever the action may be it occur in Washington, where most of my papers and data are stored.

Very respectfully,  
W. S. SCHLEY, Rear Admiral, U. S. N.

His request was promptly granted, as appears by Secretary Long's reply:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, July 24, 1901.

Sir.—I am in receipt of yours of the 22d inst. with reference to the criticisms upon you in connection with the

Spanish-American war, and heartily approve of your action under the circumstances in asking at the hands of this department such action as may bring this entire matter under discussion "under the clearer and calmer review of my brothers in arms."

The department will at once proceed in accordance with your request. Very respectfully,  
JOHN D. LONG.

The objectionable paragraphs in Maclay's "History of the Navy" are as follows:

Schley, on May 28, 1898, sullied this brightest of American mottoes by penning, "Much to be regretted cannot obey orders" and turned in caltiff flight from the danger spot toward which duty, honor and the whole American people were most earnestly urging him.

Viewed in whatever light it may be, the foregoing dispatch cannot be characterized otherwise than as being, without exception, the most humiliating, cowardly and lamentable report ever penned by an American naval officer.

And further:

In his report about the coal supply of the vessels under his command Schley exhibited a timidity either amounting to absolute cowardice or a perversion of facts that were intrinsically falsehoods.

The coal supply of his squadron, so far from being meager, as Schley reported, is shown by the respective logs of those ships, as indicated at noon May 27, to have been most satisfactory.

Here, then, we have the humiliating spectacle of an American naval officer of high rank, having each and every one of his fighting ships with more than three days' coal supply aboard, with a collier laden with 4,000 tons of coal, reporting, at a moment when the greatest crisis of the war was at hand, that "as the prospect did not seem favorable for replenishing the meager coal supply of the larger vessels, the squadron stood to the westward," or away from the point the whole United States was most fervently praying and urging him to reach.

Soon after the fiasco with the Eagle Schley found another pretext for delay in the collier Merrimac, which embarrassed the movements of the squadron by breaking her intermediate pressure valve stem and cracking her stuffing box. "This," reported the commodore, "was a source of considerable anxiety, as, with the weather conditions that prevailed since leaving Cienfuegos, it appeared absolutely necessary to abandon the position off Santiago and seek a place where the vessels could be coaled and the collier's machinery repaired."

This excuse, like the surf off Cienfuegos, which Schley deemed too strong for American naval valor to surmount, and the "rain and rough weather" which delayed the run to Santiago, was soon shown to be groundless, for the energetic engineers of the Merrimac soon repaired the damage.

Again the author says:

The one great lesson that Nelson gave in naval strategy was that a captain is never out of position when alongside an enemy. Farragut's great axiom 60 years later, was that "the nearer you get to your enemy the harder you can strike."

Schley's contribution to naval strategy, as too plainly shown by his conduct throughout this campaign, was, "Avoid your enemy as long as possible, and if he makes for you, run."

The reader has doubtless already formed his own opinion regarding Rear Admiral Schley's conduct in the war and, what is made the most of by Schley's critics, the famous "loop" of the Brooklyn in entering the race against the Spanish warships—which is explained by his friends as a technical maneuver warranted by the exigencies of the moment. The whole matter for examination is summed up in Secretary Long's "precept" issued to the court of inquiry, which contains ten counts that will clearly explain the case in controversy, particularly if read in connection with the resume of operations leading up to and before Santiago.

The court is composed of Admirals Dewey, Howison and Benham. Schley's friends object somewhat to Howison. Captain Lemly, as Judge Advocate, General of the Navy, acts as prosecuting officer, while a large array of legal talent protect the interests of many interested officers.

While it is to be regretted that such a victory should in the end arouse an unseemly quarrel as this is, it is a good thing that a public trial will bring out the many facts and effectually break up the system of rank favoritism which has existed in the navy. Some questions may remain open; but the rule of petty clerks clad in brief authority, to the detriment of the best interests of the officers and of the navy itself, will be abolished.

In closing, COMFORT would call the attention of readers to a conspicuous fact apparent to all. There has been too much talk; too much newspaper interviewing by many interested. To such the nation may well point with pride to the modest attitude of one of the few real

heroes the Spanish war developed. We refer to Captain Clark. His bringing of the Oregon from the Northern Pacific to Cuban waters will rank as the most wonderful achievement in naval history, and the part of the ship and the captain in the battle were worthy of both; since then he has attended to business and kept his mouth shut. His great performance has had no adequate recognition or reward, but he has made no kick and will make none. His testimony at the Schley inquiry will be awaited with much interest for he is the kind of man upon whose word the court and country will base the verdict.

The first session of this historic inquiry was held in Washington, as originally planned, on September 12th. A large concourse of spectators was present and much interest was manifested by the people there. Almost the first thing after convening the court was the formal objection to Admiral Howison, not as man; but as having expressed biased opinions. After hearing four witnesses and allowing the Admiral a statement, the remaining members of the board allowed him to retire. At closing writing the funeral obsequies of the late President are being held and the Secretary of the Navy has made no nomination to the vacancy.



ADMIRAL HOWISON.



ADMIRAL DEWEY.

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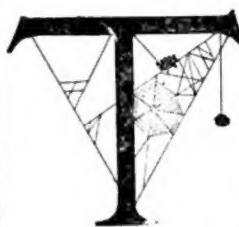
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## Madagascar's Silk Spider's Web.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THREE hundred miles from the coast of Africa lies the large island of Madagascar. It is really a small continent with a government, people, and speech of its own. Extending for a thousand miles from north to south and three hundred and fifty from east to west, its surface is diversified by broad plains and high mountains, while its seacoast is sheltered by coral reefs and lagoons of fresh water. The people of Madagascar are far in advance of most of the natives of the Malayan islands, although we find that in feature and custom and language they resemble the Pacific Islanders more closely than the people of Africa, who are much more easily accessible to them.

The island is less known than would be expected when one realizes that for a thousand years Arab merchants have traded with the Malagash tribes. It is a comparatively short time since a correct map of the country was made and even now much of the interior is unexplored.

In the early part of this century a king arose among the Malagashy who was a man far ahead of his times and his people. He united the scattered tribes into a nation and instilled into them the necessity of adopting modern methods and European ideas if they would preserve their nationality.

By means of a treaty with England he obtained arms and ammunition and raised an army which now numbers forty thousand men. Trade was encouraged and modes of living were improved so that the cities of the island are not without a semblance to European cities. Missionaries established schools in the island and education has flourished among a people who were naturally bright and ready to learn.

The women of the island have always been very clever in the making of cloth, using the most primitive appliances for weaving the fibers of aloë, palm or banana into elegant patterns. With such training it is not at all surprising that the Malagash women have been found so well adapted to the new work of spinning the silk from the silk-producing spider or "Halabi."

That silk was produced by certain spiders has long been known and many attempts have been made to use the silk after it was spun into webs. The Malagash women have done this for centuries, but the cloth thus produced was rough and uneven and of no commercial value. It was through the ingenuity of a missionary in the island, Father Cambone, that a new process has been employed. The father conceived the idea of compelling the spider to spin his thread in a long line which could be used, instead of in a tangled web. He constructed a small box, in which he confined his arachnid, and then by touching the abdomen with his finger he was able to draw forth the long silken threads which might easily be woven into cloth. This idea was taken and enlarged upon by the Professional School at Antananarivo, where the process is being perfected.

The Halabi is very hard to reproduce for the female is exceedingly ferocious and in nine cases out of ten, eats the male when he attempts to approach her. The spiders are caught and brought from the country in boxes made of bails or rushes. They are then placed each in a separate compartment of an upright frame. Each compartment represents the small box of

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"This uncle, fearing that if his nephew should return victorious from this foray, he would be even more popular than now, and perhaps succeed in thrusting him, the uncle, out from the position which he wrongfully held, ordered those warriors who had remained at home to lie in ambush for the young man and to take him prisoner on his return. This was done, and the young chief was taken in confinement for some days, and then brought out to Lake the run for his life between two long rows of Indians, each of whom was armed with a spear. He, unarmed, was to dash back and forth between the rows of Indians while they threw their spears at him. He had gone through once with very slight injury, and was returning when the little girl whose life he had saved took a spear upon which she had been leaning and killed an Indian to make an opening through which he might escape. He doubtless could have escaped had he availed himself of the opening she had made, but, fearing that if he left her behind with his enemies they would revenge themselves upon her for her act, he snatched her up as he fled. Even with her under his arm, for a long time he kept ahead of his pursuers. But as he neared the vicinity of Green Lake he became exhausted, and as his enemies gained upon him he climbed a

While Willie was going up the attic stairs to bed he sat down to rest and think over matters and a great black man with eyes as large as eggs put him into a bag and carried him off. When he came to light again, Willie was in the house of the Frog-

Fun on the go? You know these "smokeless" burning pipes are sold in the U.S. for \$25.00 each and they are now all the rage in New York. But don't get me wrong, you want some fun. They are strongly made of a thin rubber substance so you can carry them in your vest pocket and suddenly blow him up and then there is more fun ahead than a box of monkeys. Just get one and try it. Agents can sell them at the rate of a hundred an hour in a crowd. If you will send us one new subscription at the special price of 25c for two months, we will send our magazine each month for two months. If you will send us one new subscription for one month and two 6 months' trial subscriptions for 15c, we will send you one Pig. 5 Pig sold for 50c, 1 doc., \$1.00. Address COMFORT, Box 770, Augusta, Maine.



## Little Prince Edward.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



It was the time for the changing of the guard in front of St. James Palace, London, and a crowd had gathered around the Color Guard where the ceremony was to take place.

On top of the high brick wall of Marlborough House just opposite, stood a little boy in sailor suit of blue, soberly watching the tactics going on below. To many who saw him came the thought—in the regular course of events, one day that little boy will be ruler of an empire upon which the sun never sets, for the little boy upon the wall was Edward, oldest grandchild of the King of England.

What will he do with his inheritance? The years as they have rolled down the centuries to the present day, have brought to his feet as birthright many records of mighty deeds. Each ruler in turn has cast the light or the shadow of his life upon this little Edward, but he is the namesake of "Edwards one, two and three," and, in a way, they stand like god-fathers, bringing to him name-gifts that did not belong to any English king before their time, for each gift was won, or acquired, by the first, second or third, of the royal name.

The first Edward on his horse Bayard, or Grey Lyard, or Terrant, is one of the most interesting characters in history. He was a great warrior of noble stature, six feet two inches high, and so strong and active that he could leap into his saddle by merely touching it with his hands. It was he who over-ran Scotland and brought home the famous Stone of Destiny from Scone, and had made for it a great oak coronation chair with the stone placed underneath. Chair and stone are his birth-gifts to the royal child. One day, according to custom, the chair, covered with rich cloth of gold, will be taken from its usual position in Westminster Abbey and placed within the Sacrament. Then this little Edward will take his seat in the chair made by the first Edward, and be crowned King of England.

The second Edward was not a great man, but he did what no one of his royal line had done before; that is, he bore the title Prince of Wales. It is this title, which he was the first to receive, that is his name-gift to the little boy. Edward the second was born in Wales. When he was only three days old, there came to Carnarvon Castle where his royal father and mother were staying, a company of Welsh chieftains. They came to acknowledge their submission to the king, and to beg that he place over them no foreign prince; no ruler who spoke either French or Saxon, languages they could not understand. They asked for a native of Wales, and one whose character was beyond reproach. Their request was granted as soon as made. Instead of the appointment of one of their number as they had expected however, the king caused to be brought to the room his infant son, Edward, and presented him as their Prince of Wales. The royal father assured them that he was just born, a native of their country, one who could not speak a word of Saxon or French, and, so far as he knew, one whose character was beyond reproach. In this way Edward Second became Prince of Wales, a title usually borne by the eldest son of English rulers from that time to this day.

Next came to the throne the third Edward, a king whose long and picturesque reign brightens the pages of history and romance. He was a warrior, a man with military talents so great that they enabled him to be the greatest among warriors—a peacemaker. Under his management the country enjoyed freedom from war



HEIR TO ENGLAND'S THRONE.

for a longer period than at any former time and his court became the most splendid in Europe. This Edward delighted in deeds of chivalry and revels in jousts and tournaments. The beautiful stories of King Arthur were in his mind and he planned to revive the noble knight-hood of the Round Table. While he was thinking about it an incident occurred that gave him a name for his order.

There was a ball at which the Countess of Salisbury was present. The Countess dropped her garter. Then some of the courtiers who knew not King Arthur and the noble manners of the Knights of the Round Table, laughed. The king, seeing this, picked up the garter and buckled it about his knee, saying as he did so, "Hunt soit qui mal y pense"—evil to him who evil thinks—adding in further rebuke, that his courtiers should soon see a garter held in such high regard as to account themselves fortunate indeed if allowed to wear it. The garter, which is blue, having the king's words as a motto worked upon it in gold thread is the name-gift of the third Edward to his little namesake, for the chivalrous king at once established the Order of the Garter, and the sovereigns of England together with those whom they deem worthy, can wear the badge.

This ruler had a son, also named Edward, and they called him the Black Prince because of his armor. He was never king for he died before his father, but they fought together and won renown. Once at the battle of Crecy—against the French—the prince, when sixteen years of age, was sorely pressed, and messengers rode to the king bearing word that he should reinforce his son.

"Is my son killed?" asked the king.  
"No, sire."  
"Is he wounded?"  
"No, sire."  
"Then tell them that sent you, he shall have no help from me. Let the boy win his spurs."  
This answer long ago passed into a proverb. Though a king by right of birth it was nevertheless necessary for the Black Prince to "win his spurs."

The same words ring down through the years to a little boy in sailor suit of blue, standing with his attention on the high brick wall of Marlborough House. A new century with its infinite possibilities has dawned on the horizon.

"Let the boy win his spurs."  
Though a prince of royal blood this little Edward has his world to conquer as it has been conquered many times before. Not by din of battle and crash of arms, not by inherited greatness and precious name-gifts from early kings, but by a life well lived, by duties well performed, by a deep sense of the responsibilities of the state whereunto God has called him, must he conquer like every other boy throughout the wide, wide world, and, like them in the higher meaning must he too, "win his spurs."

## The Greek Slave.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THESE homely, almost rugged features and deep set eyes belong to the man who startled the world of civilization in 1843 with the "Greek Slave." Hiram Powers, born in Woodstock, Vermont, was less than forty years old when he gave to mankind his masterpiece. The wonderful figure in marble of the nude, shrinking young woman, the manacles still clinging to

her wrist, was hailed throughout civilization as the most remarkable contribution to the art of sculpture since Canova. That the sculptor was an American only added to his fame and that of his work. Brought to America not long after the production in Florence, the "Greek Slave" was exhibited to large enthusiastic crowds in all the principal cities of this country. Copies of it were ordered by rich Americans and foreign noblemen, and the sculptor grew rich on the profits of this work alone. But the intervening years had been the usual story of long and tedious struggle. Born in 1805, Hiram Powers was taken by his parents to Cincinnati then in the far west, where they settled when he was about ten years of age. Here he grew up to manhood, a tall, awkward youth with a wonderful pair of glowing, earnest eyes to distinguish him from the common herd. There was not much else remarkable about him. He got very little education and did odd jobs of every sort for a living till he grew to manhood. Then his originality and genius seemed to bloom all of a sudden. For a local museum, the principal place of entertainment in the future metropolis at that period, he conceived the plan of a set of wax figures representing the inhabitants of the Infernal Regions as delineated by Dante in his immortal poem. The audacious venture, which seems to have been the suggestion of Mrs. Trollope, the celebrated Englishwoman then living in Cincinnati, and who wrote the first widely read book on American Life and Manners, was a great success from the start. Encouraged by this proof of his talents as a modeler Powers went to Washington a year or two later, where he constructed a revolving jet-d'eau, or fountain, for the Capitol grounds, and modeled the bust of several distinguished men, including J. Q. Adams, Jackson, Van Buren, Webster, Calhoun and Preston.

At the Nation's capital his hidden talent was fully recognized, but the field in America was very narrow and in 1837, with the assistance of friends, he went to Florence with his wife and young child. His work as a modeler of the face and shoulders—commonly called a "bust"—continued to find a vogue and grew in favor here, but he was obliged to confine himself for the most part to strenuous labor at such orders for a living. Every spare moment of his time, however, was devoted to imaginative work, the germ of which was laid in the wax figures in the Cincinnati museum.

In the art capital of the old world, surrounded by the master works of ancient sculpture, his mind became clarified and finally, after three years' residence abroad, he startled the world with the Greek Slave. This statue is founded on the purest models of antiquity, and the world hailed it as though a new Phrygian had come again. It was an hour of wonderful triumph, both for the sculptor and his native land, which had not up to this time, produced one single great work of sculpture. The original was bought by A. T. Stewart, the New York merchant prince.

The artist's position was now assured and his life was henceforth an easy one. He had, in fact, won greater fame than any sculptor since Canova at a single stroke. The prices he obtained for busts and decorative pieces as well as replicas of his masterpiece made him independent and enabled him to enjoy the decline of life honored and admired by all who knew him, in peace and comfort.

His ideal genius was very largely dedicated to his native country, and although he spent the remainder of his days in Italy, he produced a number of striking American works. Among these are his Statue of Washington, The Fisher Boy, America, Ave Disconsolate, and The Last of the Tribes.

Notwithstanding his great fame he remained a typical, shrewd, plain Yankee to the end of his days, and it is related of him that when his wife was receiving visitors on stated occasions in their elegant home in Florence, he could

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only be found in his studio with his cap and apron on. He died in Florence in 1873, at the age of sixty-eight, having suffered from declining health less than six months previous to his death.

## The America Cup.



THE America Cup, that famous trophy for the possession of which the international yacht races are held every year was originally offered by the members of the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes in 1851. The race was to be open to yachts of all nations. The American yacht America was the only representative of a foreign country entering the races and was successful in winning the race by a generous margin. The trophy thus won was presented by the owners of the America to the New York Yacht Club, with the condition that it was to be always "a challenge cup for friendly competition between foreign countries."

## Equine Millinery.



THE terrible hot weather that has afflicted the whole country this summer has proved especially hard upon horses; more particularly horses that are obliged to work hard in the sun all day. Somebody has invented a hat which thousands of the horses in the big cities are wearing with a great deal of comfort. Certainly it seems to be a most humane invention, and while it has furnished columns of matter for the newspaper funny man, there is no doubt but what it has saved the lives of many valuable horses this summer. Most drivers place a wet sponge in the crown of the horse's hat, which by the way is an ordinary straw hat such as hay-makers wear, except that holes are made on each side of the crown for the horses' ears to pass through. The bonnet strings are either fastened coquettishly under the chin or more prosaically fastened to the bridle. Lately there seems to be some attempt at decoration, as several hats have been noticed trimmed with paper roses, artificial violets and other flowers. The horses of a famous Boston brewery wear picture hats with a large quill stuck in each, bearing in prominent letters the motto of the enterprising firm. The Humane Society have been much interested in these hats for horses and has given away thousands to drivers this summer.

## Cures Goitre

Remarkable Discovery that Cures this Dangerous and Disfiguring Disease Without Pain, Operation or Inconvenience.

## TRIAL PACKAGE SENT FREE.

Dr. John P. Haig, a well known Cincinnati physician has had marvelous success with a remedy that cures Goitre or Thick Neck. And owing to



MRS. ELLEN A. GLAYNOR, Covington, Ky., was cured after suffering for 28 years; if you wish you are at liberty to write her.

the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable Dr. Haig sends a free trial package of his discovery so that patients may try and know positively that Goitre can be cured at home without pain, danger, operation or any inconvenience.

Send your name and address to Dr. John P. Haig, 2314 Glenn Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, and he will forward the treatment, postage prepaid. Do not fail to get this wonderful remedy. In Bombay, India, 60,000 patients in that infected district were cured with this same remedy, and wherever used its success has been marvelous.

Write at once, send name and address to-day, and Dr. Haig will be glad to send you a trial package of the remedy free. Do not delay.

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**Agents Wanted.** Life of McKinley and Story of His Assassination. Lowest price. This book outsells all others. About 500 extra large pages. Biggest, best book, superbly illustrated. \$25.00 per day. Freight paid, credit given, no experience necessary. Sell the Best Book—Take the Most Money. HENRY NEIL, Como Building, Chicago, Ill.

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movement. Ladies or Gents size. WARRANTED 20 YEARS. 14K. Gold plate hunting case, elegantly engraved. Fit for a king. No better watch made. Must be seen to be appreciated. Special offer for next 60 days, send your full name and address and we will send this watch C.O.D. with privilege to examine. If found satisfactory pay agent \$5.85 and express charges. A guarantee and beautiful chain and charm sent free with every watch. Write at once as this may not appear again.

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**AGENT'S OUTFIT FREE.**

Five articles, express prepaid. No cash. Tin hat case bottom which allows removal of most delicate cake without breaking. Bottom fits in groove; will not leak butter. Ten styles, round, square and oblong. We are largest mfrs. of Aluminum, Granite and Tin Ware. Write to E. S. Dept. X HOUSEHOLD NOVELTY WORKS, 25 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill., or New York, Buffalo, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Seattle. This Co. is worth a Million Dollars and is reliable.—Ed.

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**LADIES** WANTED to do writing at home. Good wages. No canvassing. Send stamped envelope for reply. Miss MODELL MILLER, New Carlisle, Ind. Please mention COMFORT when you write.

**SOFT CORNS, CORNUICURE.** No knife, no pain, no poison. Cures while you sleep. Trial package, 10 cents. Dept. A. The Cornucure Co., Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

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**Earn \$8** BY DISTRIBUTING 100 SAMPLES OF STAMP. A. W. SCOTT, COHES, N. Y.

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For sending only 15c of our MAGNIFICENT PICTURE FAMILY RECORDS at 25c. each to friends and neighbors, we positively give you FREE our ROYAL TEA SET consisting of tea plates, cake plates, sugar creamer, tea pot, cups and saucers, fruit dishes, etc., every piece full size for family use, beautifully decorated and of very latest shape, a LADIES' or GENTS' size WATCH, or a large Crayon or Oil Portrait in a handsome frame. No deception about this. Send only name and address and we send the Records postpaid. When sold send us the money and we positively send you the tea set, ladies' or gent's size watch, or portrait of whom you wish. E. A. REYNOLDS & CO., 175 N. 3rd St., Newark, N. J.

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For the Bath IT HAS NO EQUAL.

A Labor-Saving device entirely new and universal in demand. Will last a lifetime and costs but Twenty-five cents. Just as the market and over 500 Gross sold last month. Every family in the land wants one or more. All you do to sell them is simply show the lady of the house or the office man how it works on his window and you will depart with one less every time, but in its place a quarter.

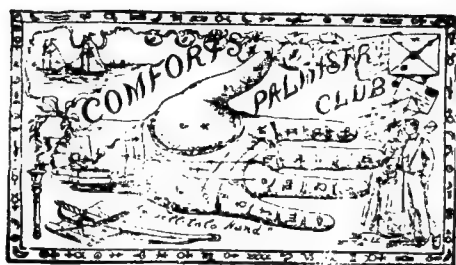
The Magical Sponge differs from the ordinary sponge in nature, while the common sponge is of vegetable origin and found in the ocean, the Magical Sponge is a mineral production and found in the United States, dug from the ground, carefully prepared and manufactured into sponges for the Housekeeper, Merchant, Livermore, Retail Workers, and all persons who desire to keep their homes, offices, and business places in a clean and healthy condition.

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Good men wanted all over the country to handle these goods, big inducements offered steady workers, and exclusive sale.

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CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

## CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living palmists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:

Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and name de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to COMFORT PALMISTRY CLUB, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fatty, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-oiled, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the consistency of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in plastering the hand. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out the lines can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fatty.

Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

**T**HERE are always a good many questions for me to answer and I am always glad to get them; only you must not go too far and try to get a full reading of your hands in answer to questions, for it is impossible to give you a correct one.

I once got myself into a funny scrape and through these columns too. Someone sent impressions and signed only initials. The handwriting was like a man's and the hand was masculine in appearance, on paper at least. Consequently I read the hands under the nom de plume sent and supposed everything was all right. A year or so later I received a very wrathful letter from a lady who resides, well, on this earth, not to be too explicit; she was furious because she had, as she claimed, sent the impressions and the proper amount of money with the necessary subscribers, and had never been able to get a reading. Now I keep a close record of all the impressions read and on looking up this lady, I found that I had given her the reading, but spoken of the hand as "his" and called the owner a man in several instances, all of which was published here. She read it doubtless, but naturally did not recognize it. As I have asked over and over again that senders of impressions will state their sex or at least indicate it, I do not consider that I was in fault if I read a masculine hand as a man's especially as I was not told that it belonged to a woman. This demonstrates the science, I maintain, for I must read a hand as it appears to me and if the sender does not intimate his or her sex I can only guess at it from his hand.

A subscriber asks the meaning of certain positions and branching of the fate line. Any forking of the fate line, if the branches run upward towards a mount and are clear and unbroken, means that there will be a turn of the life of fate or business at the age indicated by the fate line where the branch leaves it and the new venture will partake of the qualities of the mount towards which it ascends; thus, a good strong branch leaving the fate line just before the head line and going to the mount of Jupiter will mean that the subject adopts some new profession or calling at the age of thirty or thereabouts and will realize his ambitions therein. Of course this should appear in both hands.

Several have asked about the book on Palmistry by Prof. Hargrett. It is published by the Occidental Publishing Co. at 121 East 23rd Street, New York City. Their "Book of Fate" is to be had of Brentano, Union Square, New York. Both are two dollars. I should advise Cheiro, however, to COMFORT students, as it is more in line with the COMFORT Palmistry Guide which we have sent to so many of our readers.

A. B. C. and Cheiro is an acknowledged authority the world over.

Another reader asks about the Alumbia Scientific Academy which is supposed to teach palmistry somewhere in New York. I have never heard of it. There are a good many "fakes" in the palmistry business, just as in all other things, and I would not advise the members of this club to be duped by any of them if they can help it.

"A. B. C." says "I want you to read my hand exactly as you see it; don't be afraid to tell the worst that you see." Others have written the same thing and when I have complied, for I have had some very bad hands as well as some very good ones to read here, they have taken offense at my reading and written to explain that I know nothing of palmistry. Now I shall tell all I see in "A. B. C.'s" hand and take him at his word when he says he wants it.

"A. B. C." then has a hand in which the good and ill are not evenly divided. There are some excellent readings there; for instance, he has a fine, long fate line which promises a good busi-

ness career; but the hollow mount of Apollo, which is the mount of riches shows that he will never become wealthy and the many deep cross lines on the fate line show that he will have to fight adversity all the way. I think he will gain a moderate competence in the end. He is very ambitious as is shown by the line running from the life line to the mount of Jupiter but he will not fully realize all he desires. He will not live to be much over fifty and will leave his affairs in a complicated condition. He will leave a widow and probably some children, but he will have been very happy in his married life. He will be one of those men, and we all know plenty of them, who strive hard all their lives; who seem to have every chance to make money and get on in life, and yet they don't. Some adverse fate seems to hang over them and just as the apple of fate is about to drop into their mouths, off it goes elsewhere. This man will have an upright character and a pretty good disposition but has a nervous temperament and there are so many cross lines indicating petty trials and disappointments, that he will be a trifle, just a trifle difficult to get along with. He will have a severe disappointment in his love affairs early in life but will get over it and will live to rejoice that fate saved him for the one he finally marries. And he will always be a great favorite with the opposite sex. His health will be fairly good but his constitution is not naturally strong.

"Zelma" does not obey the rules about sending smoked paper impressions and I have only pen-drawings instead; but they seem to be carefully done and I will do the best I can with them. I only ask that she will remember what I have often said, that it is impossible to give a perfect and exact reading from a pen or pencil drawing. Zelma is a girl that is hampered by her relatives; they dictate to her and find fault with her and repeat gossip to annoy her. She would be happier to get something to do and go away from home where she can live her own life and do her best without interference from those who do not understand her or appreciate her motives. She would succeed as a typewriter, or if she has had sufficient education in music, as a teacher of music. She is very attractive to the opposite sex and will have a number of admirers before she is really settled in life. She needs to be careful about marrying too soon or taking up with the first man who offers himself. She lacks a little the perseverance and energy that would lead her to strike out and make her own way; if she can bring herself to do this, she will succeed finally and be much happier in the end.

She has an imaginative temperament and a nervous disposition but she is affectionate and will make the right man, who will appear when she is about twenty-five, an excellent wife. Her married life will not last over fifteen years and she will outlive her husband some twenty or more years. She will make an excellent housekeeper and is quite domestic in her tastes. She will be inclined to headaches or brain troubles but with no serious results. She will not be much of a traveler and will live to be sixty or over. She will have much taste in dress and will always be attractive in appearance, even after her hair turns gray. The main thing with her is that she needs to be careful to avoid mistaking a fancy for love and marrying too soon in consequence. And she should get away from home and do some practical work that will fill her life for the present with something useful and interesting to do and to think about. Girls make a great mistake and often ruin their lives by thinking they must accept the first man who proposes. Let them wait until they know the difference between a puppy-dog and a real man.

The person who suffers from hallucinations has a long mount of Luna, well developed; he will have a long second finger and a hollow hand with soft palm and tapering fingers, rather a pretty hand to look at. The first phalanx of the thumb will be short and will lack character every way. If he has a very broad hand with bad lines look out for him; he will perhaps be a dangerous character. "Jennie" wants to know if the bracelets at the bottom of the hand, at the wrist, are important. I pay no heed to them, although some palmists claim that the length and even the state of happiness and amount of trouble one is to undergo is written there. I do not believe it, however.

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Digitus

## Nickels and Pennies.



**T**HE smaller coins that satisfy our daily needs of car fare and newspapers are coined in the Philadelphia mint, and this part of the business of the mint is by no means a small matter. Every year one hundred million pennies are required to satisfy our needs, as the demand for these small coins is always brisk. Thousands of them are lost every year and it takes a good deal of work on the part of the government to keep the supply adequate to the needs of business. The government makes a very good profit out of its small coins as none of the money—except gold coins—contain their face value in metal.

The blanks from which pennies are stamped are supplied the government by an outside firm for one dollar per thousand. Blanks for nickels are also supplied by the same firm for one and one-half cents each. Gold is coined at Philadelphia and at San Francisco. Not enough comes to New Orleans to make the coining worth while. The gold coins contain their face value in metal besides a small amount of copper alloy in addition.

In regard to small coins it is said that the



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Can earn valuable premiums selling our pure food products among friends and neighbors. We have the largest and best assortment of premiums of any firm in the country. With our liberal way of dealing you can enjoy the use of your premium while working for it. We do not ask you to pay one cent of money in advance. Could anything be more liberal, honest or fair?

We send the premium you select with the goods ordered, **WE PAY FREIGHT** and allow ample time to deliver before paying us, thus proving there is no scheme and you are sure of getting the premium you select. Remember you see with your own eyes that everything is just as advertised before paying one cent.

We want your fullest confidence, so that we may work in harmony to our mutual advantage. Confidence in business is as necessary as steam is to an engine, it is the unseen power which makes the wheels of progress revolve and ultimately leads to success. We assure you your confidence will not be misplaced.

Experience is not necessary, our plans are so carefully explained you cannot fail to understand them and are sure to be successful from the start. A great many of our successful agents work only during their spare time.

Our Belle Baking Powder stands Ohio Food Law Test, is first class and worth full purchase price alone. As an extra inducement and to assist agents making sales, we give each purchaser of a pound FREE! a full half gallon

**STAR BRIGHT** LINWOOD ART POTTERY PITCHER, newest shape, decorations finely embossed, and gold stippled, also a bar Physicians Odorless Soap and cake Starbright Polish, ALL FOR ONLY 60 CENTS.

**Offer No. 1** We give to every woman who sells 20 combination packages amounting to \$12.00 a 58 Piece Decorated Dinner Set, 27 Pieces Solid Silver Plated Tableware or a White Enamelled Iron Bed.

**Offer No. 2** For the sale of 25 packages amounting to \$15.00 we give a 72 Piece Decorated Dinner Set, an 8 Day Marbleized Clock, a Handsome Dress Skirt or a Decorated Hanging Lamp.

Tea and Dinner Sets, Furniture, Wraps, Silverware, Sewing Machines, Watches, Musical Instruments and hundreds of other premiums or cash given on the same plan, you get the premium and earn it afterwards. We depend entirely upon your honesty to pay us.

**SEND US** your name and address, stating which offer you accept, while waiting for premium list go ahead and sell to everyone you know and others, you will soon earn a handsome premium or cash needed. Try it.

**IF YOU ACCEPT** offer No. 1, we send 20 Linwood Pitchers, one for each buyer, 20 pounds Baking Powder, 20 bars Physicians Odorless Soap 20 cakes Polish, 58 piece Dinner Set or other premium. Freight paid to your nearest R. R. Station.

Sallie Peck, Indiana, Pa., earned a Tea Set in a half day, Clara Baur, Pana, Ill., a Guitar in four hours. Mrs. A. Beck, Sullivan, Ind., a Sewing Machine in two days. Mrs. Chas. Page, Dayton, O., \$32.25 in 7 days. Jennie Shuster, Toplin, Mo., \$6.25 in a day and a half, hundreds of other agents doing equally as well, why not you?

Write for plans, order blanks, premium sheet and complete instruction how to earn big wages or handsome premiums right at your own home in your spare time by our modern and easy methods, and if there is anything you want we will send it to you at once and let you pay for it by selling our goods to your friends and neighbors. We also give handsome presents for securing agents to work for us. Write today.

**BEGIN AT ONCE** Call on your friends, neighbors in fact everyone until you have sold to 20, 25, 31 or 42 persons. Write name in pen and ink of party you sold, mention this paper, have your Postmaster, Banker or some reliable business man assure us of your integrity, mail it to us, and as soon as received we will ship. **FREIGHT PAID**, goods you sold, pitchers to give away and the present you select, allowing 10 days to deliver before paying us. **MENTION PLAN 111.**

**THE PURE FOOD CO., 966 MAIN ST., CINCINNATI, OHIO.**

Established in 1886, had we not dealt fairly and honestly with our customers we should never have grown to be able to occupy our present enormous buildings. **OUR MOTTO: "If anything is not right, we stand ready to make it right"**

government contemplates issuing a new three-cent piece. It is to be of nickel, about the size of a five-cent piece. It will be radically different from any other piece of United States money, however, in that it will have a hole through the center equal to one-half the diameter of the coin. This will distinguish them readily from all other pieces of money, so that in handling money rapidly they cannot be taken for coins of larger denomination. In many ways the new coin should prove very useful, and ought to become a valuable aid in the business world.

Col. Fremont was the first to navigate Great Salt Lake in 1834.

## The Dawn of Peace.

The piece of music under the above title on another page of COMFORT is singularly appropriate. The last public speech of the late President McKinley finished with an eloquent allusion to the dawn of peace. This particular march was played at his inaugural last March and has since become the popular march of the day with many military and other bands. Mr. W. T. Pierson is to be congratulated on the popularity of his present composition. It is a particularly bright and catchy two-step and makes a general hit.

Music is a refining influence at all times. Poor music should be rejected and discarded. The best and most delightful sheet music is in the list which appears in the offer on another page.

## ICUREFITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.



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What city combination of "wine and walnuts" ever equalled the real expedition to the woods after nuts? The homely American butternut has a flavor beyond any tropical product.

Dame Nature is certainly a barbarian. Her gorgeous scarlets, oranges, yellows and browns would never be permitted in any art school. Pastel shades are not for her in her October mood. Even the sunsets pale before the blaze of the foliage. Happy are those whose horizon line is not bounded by brick and mortar but who can watch the riot of color in even a single tree.

The yacht races seem destined to accomplish at least one result between the two great English speaking nations. The Irish baronet has made such persistent use of the phrase "lift the cup" that the term "lift" may be transferred from the vernacular of crookdom to polite phraseology. Everyone knows that the English call an elevator a "lift." Hereafter the verbal and substantial forms of "lift" will mean simply "to win."

The Goddess of Chance has rarely assembled her devotees in such great numbers as the thousands who watched the drawing of the Oklahoma lots. The wheel whirled before a vast crowd who listened eagerly to the announcement of winners. Some lots drawn were worth from \$20,000 to \$40,000. One of the richest prizes was drawn by a young woman who had been a telephone operator. It was perhaps the best method of distribution in view of the fact that thousands had made application for the land and there could be no weighing of individual claims.

The women on American farms have shown great industry in the construction of home-made rugs and carpets. The result is a monument to patience and perseverance but a violation of all sense of beauty or artistic feeling. Among the exhibits at the Pan American were some rugs of native manufacture that combined utility with beauty. A woman of strong artistic sense made a study of the matter and with the aid of the women in the small villages and on some of the farms in Maine, has produced a rug which will command a good price in a city market. The native yarn is dyed in shades of dark blue and the background of the rug is made from this with designs in white. The yarn is tied into a firm foundation and then cut. The surface has something of the appearance of an Oriental rug. A profitable home industry could be maintained by the manufacture of these rugs.

The first convention held in this country in the interest of good roads is the International Congress for Good Roads which has just closed its session in Buffalo. A national good roads train carried to Buffalo all the latest machinery for the improvement of roads. The greatest experts on road building from the United States and from foreign nations spoke at this congress. During the summer the national good roads train visited sixteen different cities in five states and gave simple practical demonstrations of the best methods of road making. Over eighty miles of earth roads and three of macadamized were constructed as object lessons. The time has passed when the country road was considered in good shape after the farmers had turned out once a year and dug out the side ditches and piled the dirt in a ridge in the center of the road. The old town office of "path-master" will soon be no sinecure for it will

demand an intimate knowledge of all the modern ideas in regard to the difficult task of proper road building.

The bi-centennial celebration of the founding of Yale college will be held in New Haven in October. The Old New England city will have its entertaining capacity taxed to the uttermost as all available space has been engaged for months. The sum of \$2,000,000 has been raised as an appropriate expression of satisfaction in the two hundredth anniversary of this great institution. Yale University with its vast endowment and its two century record of culture in 1901 has a long look backward to its inception in 1700. In that year ten Congregational clergymen met in New Haven and made a contribution of ten books each toward the establishment of a library and college. Yale is the third oldest college in the United States, Harvard and the college of William and Mary having been established previously. Its great influence in the educational field has been second to none. For two hundred years it has been a powerful factor in American life and every American whether he be an alumnus of Yale or not should feel a personal interest in this event.

The "Exposition habit" seems to be a growing one. We have been surprised and delighted at the fact that centennial celebrations were possible at this stage of our history. The opportunity to combine a centennial exhibition and an industrial exposition is eagerly seized. It is not often that our centennial events are national in interest, but the purchase of Louisiana in 1803 is of peculiar national significance in this decade of territorial expansion. The precedent has developed more momentous results in our history than any other single event. St. Louis has seized its opportunity and already the Louisiana Purchase of 1903 is being discussed and planned. "The Pan" is now at the height of its glory but all visitors there have their attention directed to the Exposition of 1903. All nations are to be invited to join in this exposition. In the earliest development of commerce the Fair promised the only means for an exchange of goods. In Southern Russia the great yearly fairs are still the merchant's opportunity for sales. Aggressive modern commercialism has returned to the spirit of the early method and the time seems to be approaching when each summer will find some great city attracting crowds to an exposition which above everything else is industrial in character.

It was believed for a long time that science and the Bible could not agree. Modern investigations have however reconciled some apparent discrepancies. It remains for a French doctor to stir up a new discussion. "Who by taking thought can add a cubit to his stature?" is the old Biblical question and the French savant answers that he can. It is claimed that two fifths of an inch a month can be added to the stature by the use of electricity. An electric bulb is applied to the bony matter at the knee and ankle joint and its growth is stimulated so that amazing changes in height result. There are many alarming and pleasing results possible in the development of this latest scientific discovery. The undoubted fact that women are extremely tall has made it rather embarrassing for many a youth of low stature and tender heart. The fear of ridicule has prevented his setting his affection upon a Gibson girl who bore about the relation to him that Texas does to Rhode Island. Now, this can all be properly adjusted and he can take a little electricity and grow up to his ideal. There is, however, an alarming possibility of this discovery's ruining the market for giants. If giants can be manufactured to order, the real unelectricified article will have to find some other occupation than being a sideshow. Again the French government might seize upon the invention and proceed to turn the whole French army into a giant force that would threaten the balance of power in Europe.

"Child Study" has developed a scientific side to the natural love for children. The games and amusements of children are wonderfully illustrated in the Children's building of the Paris Exposition which has been retained as a permanent exhibition. It is an exemplification of the Children's Pleasure Palace which was commented upon sometime since by COMFORT. Along with this added interest in the pleasures of children has developed a practical care for their physical well being. It has no better illustration than the investigations that have recently been made into the conditions of child labor in our Southern states and in Italy. Systematic investigation of the factory and mining conditions in the South disclose conditions that are horrible. These abuses are permitted only because people are ignorant of them. Efforts are being made to procure legislation in the Southern states that will prevent such abuses. The American Federation of Labor is working to this end but as yet no laws have been secured. Conditions must be understood before public opinion will demand protection for child life. Conditions similar to the child labor in the Southern states exist in Italy where children are practically sold to contract labor in the factories of other countries. The exporter of human lives exists upon the income derived from selling children to long hours of work in the furnaces of glass factories at Lyons. There is a demand in Italy for government intervention. These are hopeful signs. It is the pathetic contrast between the interest in the pleasures of favored children and the fight for the very lives of the poor victims of child labor, that must appeal to any one familiar with the different phrases of the subject.

The Pan-American Congress to be held in Mexico during this month of October is one of the most important gatherings that has been held in America. Two features of the relation to one another of American republics must be discussed and the questions are of immediate and practical significance. The political relations and the commercial relations in America should be instantly influenced by this Congress if its delegates appreciate that no academic discussion should be indulged in. The United States has the opportunity to do a great work in the field of practical politics. The Latin Republics of South America owe their existence and continuance to the Monroe Doctrine. The United States should clearly define at this Congress the force of that act, since it practically proclaims the United States the protector of the autonomy of South American republics. The constant revolutions in South America and threats of war between countries make some system of arbitration an imperative necessity.

The present troubled relations between several of the republics will no doubt make the appointment of some such tribunal a matter of immediate attention. The United States can with profit to itself come to a better appreciation of commercial conditions in America. We have made enormous commercial gains in Mexico, Central America and the West Indies. We have absorbed at least three-fourths of the business of those countries. In South America we have made but little advance during the past ten years. Europe has control of the foreign imports of South America. We import from South America double the value of the goods we sell her but the growth of trade is slow. The congress should help us to a realization of the importance of the field that lies so close to us and is bound to us by the ties of political gratitude.

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*Tempo di marcia.*

*ff* *cres.* *f* *mf* *mf*

*cres.* *f* *mf*

*p* *p cantabile sostenuto.*

*f*

*cres.* *ff*

*8va.*

*8va.*

*1* *2* *8va.*





WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HERE has always existed to a greater or less extent a superstitious belief in the occult or supernatural. In the somewhat hazy times of ancient Greek

mythology the universe was run by signs and symbols, and the Sphinx and her colleagues kept pretty active with their divinatory and arbitrary turning of fortune's wheel. Later the wonderful astrologers and soothsayers of the far East wrought mysteries and witcheries portentous and often fatal as well as fateful in outcome. The Romans told their strange tales and fortunes when their palms

were crossed with silver; and from it all have gradually been evolved the mind-reading, palmistry, gypsy fortune-telling and horoscopy of modern days, all of which deal with the good and bad luck of the individual, and have produced a small undercurrent of superstition in every day life, so that by many people certain incidents or objects are interpreted as meaning or predicting a happy fortune or otherwise, as the case may be.

An outgrowth of this somewhat superstitious influence is the belief in certain things as talismans or charms for inducing propitious fortune to smile, and for driving away evil chance, though why a four-leaved clover or a black cat should produce such results is rather inexplicable. This faith in charms is as old as doomsday, but within the past few years a revival of the old-fashioned superstitions has set in, making something of a fad of everything that has to do with good luck. Talismans and emblems of every variety are owned or worn by maid or matron alike, and many of sterner sex are made recipients of some mascot supposed to portend happy fortune, for it is part of the charm that these omens must be given or received, as it is said that good luck cannot be bought, but must come to one unsought—it must be "kismet"—fate.

Good luck luncheons, suppers and cotillions can be made great sport, when all the favors are mascots or lucky symbols, and spells are wrought, often the cause of much merriment.

When all things pertaining to the occult and mysterious are so popular, naturally Halloween would be hailed with greatest enthusiasm, the enchanted thirty-first day of October which has been made so much of ever since the days of Scotch "Bobbie" Burns and the other graphic chroniclers of its mystic rites, particularly by light hearted young folks who are eager to tempt their future destiny.

It is the night of nights of all the year when spells and charms hold good, when unseen spirits are supposed to walk abroad, called forth from the vasty deep, when the witchery of all things uncannily spreads a subtle influence and mortal man and maid delight to try their fate by a peep into the unknown.

As so many of these young people, both city-bred and rural, are preparing to keep "All Hallows," numerous are the plans being devised. Probably the two that will be most widely followed will be the Halloween party, or entertainment, where the traditional charms of the night, mostly of Scotch and English origin, will be indulged in; and the up-to-date function, where all the magic is to be "spick and span," freshly invented for the occasion.

The old observances consist in the familiar "ducking" for apples in a tub of water, roasting of chestnuts named for the sweetheart before the open fire, carrying a lighted candle and a looking-glass downstairs as the clock strikes midnight, walking backwards all the time blindfolded; to try one's fate in three dishes of water set on the table, one of them empty, the second filled with clean water, the other with soapy water; and a score more of equally quaint doings handed down from generation to generation.

For making the new Halloween affair successful, invitations could be issued on curious three cornered bits of red paper—three being the magic number, red the symbolic color—in each corner engraved some mystic design or emblem of good luck. Each guest should be requested to appear at the symposium attired to represent some secret character, and to be prepared to work some original trick of magic, to cast horoscopes, to participate in a dance of uncanny spirits or perform a witch's *pas seul*, to sing or play weird music, to tell a ghoully tale, or perform something else in keeping with the spirit of the night.

This could be made a novel and exciting form of Halloween fun. A crop of appropriate ideas could be secured by dipping into old volumes of mythology and mystic lore, and studying up ancient Greek, Assyrian and Egyptian stories of the black art, literature usually neglected save by the scholar in antiquities. Even the pagan rites of the ancient Druids who believed in the transmigration of souls might give some hints, for these priests of past ages were great devotees at the shrine of Halloween, and also observed November first. All Souls Day, as the festival of the sun, filling the preceding night with strange ceremonies to usher in the day.

"When I get a bright idea I always want to pass it along," said a thrifty housewife, as she sat watching a young girl sewing: "Do your buttons ever come off?"

"Ever? They are always doing it. They are ironed off, washed off and pulled off until I despair. I seem to shed buttons at every step."

"Make use of these two hints when you are sewing them on, then, and see if they make any difference. When you begin, before you lay the button on the cloth, put the thread through so that the knot will be on the right side. That leaves it under the button, and prevents it from being worn or ironed away, and thus beginning the loosening process."

"Then, before you begin sewing, lay a large pin across the button, so that all your threads will go over the pin. After you have finished filling the holes with thread, draw out the pin, and wind your thread round and round beneath the button. That makes a compact stem to sustain the possible pulling and wear of the buttonhole. 'It is no exaggeration to say that my buttons never come off, and I'm sure yours won't if you use my method of sewing.'"

The summer time is the golden opportunity for the girl troubled with pimples. The torrid heat offers an efficacious substitute for the Turkish or Russian bath. The healthy streams of perspiration with which Dame Nature strives to eradicate these facial blemishes should never be dammed by the opposing powder puff. Rather encourage the very friendly drop which adds its tiny share in promoting the health and purity of the complexion.

Before retiring go through these exercises if you would be graceful: Take correct standing position, heels together, toes well apart. Without moving feet or bending body turn at the waist, with head firm, to right and then to left, repeating six or eight times. Same position. Turn body at the waist to the right, at the same time turning head to the left. Repeat several times; then reverse. This exercise gives flexibility to the waist muscles and reduces fat in that part of the body.

A lotion recommended for ordinary tan is made from a pint of rosewater, half an ounce of pulverized borax, and an ounce of strained lemon juice. With this mixture the skin may be freely bathed after exposure to the sun.

For a skin roughened by high winds nothing is better than a little pure olive or almond oil. This, worked well into the pores after washing in warm water, will give a satiny smoothness. The odor of olive oil is unpleasant to many people and for these an excellent facial cream may be made from a tablespoonful of almond oil, a half teaspoonful of tincture of benzoin, beaten together until frothy, after which the white of an egg and a few drops of essence are added. These should be thoroughly beaten and bottled.

Who first dreamed of a clover cushion? A very happy thought it was to stuff that necessary article with fragrant clover blossoms. The balsam of the Maine pine woods, after this discovery, may as well hide in oblivion, for what odor is more refreshing than that of the flower associated with luck. A balmy pillow? It must indeed make, and on it the weary head will have vision of peace.

ful fields redolent of the breath of kine. Clover and cows always go together, or should, in poetry.

A CURIOUS contest has recently taken place in England to determine, by vote, the twelve most notably good women of the nineteenth century. Among those selected were, in the order of their names, Queen Victoria, Florence Nightingale, Elizabeth Fry, the Baroness Burdette-Coutts, the Princess of Wales, the late Duchess of Teck, Sister Dora, Grace Darling, Lady Henry Somerset and Frances Ridley Havergal.

WHEN the Duke of Clarence, afterward William IV., went down to Portsmouth to inspect the British seventy-four, the guide allotted to him was a battered old lieutenant with one eye, who lacking "a friend" at court, had served years without promotion. As the veteran removed his hat to salute his royal visitor, the latter remarked his baldness, and said jestingly, "I see my friend, you have not spared your hair in your country's service."

"Why, your Royal Highness," answered the "old salt," "so many young fellows have stepped over my head that it's a wonder that I have any hair left." A few days after the "old salt" was surprised to receive his appointment as captain.

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### The State of Texas.



TEXAS has had the most varied history of all the states of the Union. It has at different times been under six different governments. France, Spain, and Mexico have all claimed its territory at different times, and it has also been an independent republic, one of the Confederate States, and now is under the United States flag. It was first settled some two hundred years ago and its first American colonists found it a foreign country. Later in its history when it belonged to Mexico, its colonists declared their independence, and for seven years ruled as a republic. Annexation to the United States was accomplished by a treaty.

### A Valuable Forest.



HALCEDONY park is the name of a peculiar forest which is situated near Holbrook, Arizona. The park, which is hundreds of miles in area, contains thousands of trunks of trees which have become petrified or agatized. Some of the trunks are one hundred and fifty feet long, and where they have broken apart show beautiful color effects in the stone. The bark of these former trees is of a dark red color, but the chips and the interior of the logs show all kinds of beautiful colors, amethyst, red and yellow jasper, chalcedony in all colors, besides topaz, onyx and other semi-precious stones are blended in these logs forming a wonderfully effective grouping of brilliant effects. It is supposed that years ago these logs were overwhelmed by some volcanic eruption and covered with ashes and hot mineral-charged water from geysers. As the wood decayed, the minerals in the water of the geysers took its place and crystallized to form the beautiful color combinations that delight the eye now.

The first printing press in America was set up in Cambridge by Richard Day in 1639.

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Note the sizes of the designs named below and the number of sheets of patterns in this outfit.

1 Very Handsome Centerpiece, 17x17 inches.  
1 Pretty Corner-piece of Pan-  
sies and Leaves, 6x8 inches.  
1 Design of Strawberries and  
Leaves for Dolly, 5 1/2 x 6 1/2.  
1 Design Orchid and Leaves for Scarf Corner,  
6 1/2 x 10.  
1 Clover Design for Dolly.  
1 Design for Baby's Bib, Rosebuds and word  
Baby, 4x4.  
1 Design for Cheese Dolly, 3 1/2 x 6.  
1 Design for Souvenir Case with Motto, 5 1/2 x 6.  
1 Design for Shoe Bag, 5x10.  
1 Design for Shaving Bag with Motto, 6x6.  
4 Fruit Designs for Fruit Plate Dollies, 3 1/2 x 3 1/2.  
1 Design for Carving Cloth, 11 1/2 x 15 1/2.  
1 Design for Tumbler Dolly, 4x4.  
1 Pretty Corner Design for Tea-cloth, Jewel Work,  
9x9.  
1 Design for Table Dolly, 8x8.  
1 Design for Water Bottle Dolly, 6x6.  
4 Designs for Butter Plate Dollies, 3 1/2 x 3 1/2.  
1 Cut Work Dolly Design, 5x5.  
1 Very Pretty Design for Corner, Battenberg  
Work, 7x7.  
1 Design for Border with Corner, 5x6.  
1 Floral Corner Geranium, 6 1/2 x 6 1/2.  
1 Design Water Lily for Dolly.

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## Summer Visitors.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

THE sun was casting long golden rays back on the earth he was leaving one warm evening in June when motherly Mrs. Byram came out on the porch where her husband was smoking his evening pipe, exclaiming, as she dropped into her rocking chair and began to fan her heated face with her apron:—

"There! Thank fortune, I'm all through. The last curtain is hung, and the last rag is washed and dried and put away, and now every inch of this house is as clean as hands and soap and water can make it. Now it's ready for haying, and after that I sha'n't have anything special to do till fall; and I'm goin' to rest and take things easy for a spell. What's that you're a sayin'? Summer visitors? Oh, I don't believe they will trouble us much this year. I wrote Sarah 'long back in March that I didn't feel over and above smart this year; and I guess she has too much sense to bring her family here after that, and she'll tell the rest of 'em, too, that I'm not able to have 'em come visiting this year. I should feel that way if I was in her place. I can't do for other people this summer as I did last. I ain't strong enough. I suppose that daughter Maria will come with little Ernest, but that is different. That's our own, and it don't seem to trouble to have them here, but 'pears like I can't have sister Sarah and her children, and cousin Ellen and hers, and all Sam's children, married and single."

At this Mr. Byram stirred, looked at his wife, and took the pipe from his mouth.

"Indeed, you can't, Sabriny, and that's a fact. But if your letter to Sarah last March is all you've said to any of 'em against comin', I'm afraid you'll have 'em all here this summer as sure as preachin'." "Pears to me you'd better drop Sarah, and maybe Ellen, another line, and tell 'em how beat out you be this spring, and that you ain't going to do nothin' but rest all summer."

"Oh, I don't just like to do that, Jotham. Looks like I was refusin' their company before I was asked. Besides its drestful hard work for me to write letters, and I don't feel equal to trying it,—not till I'm more rested than I be now."

"Well, Sabriny, I don't blame ye a mite for feelin' that way, but, all the same, I'm afraid you're takin' a big risk in not writin'. It's more'n likely they'll come down on ye without any warnin' some of these warm days. If I was well and strong it wouldn't be so bad, but you've got me on your hands to look out for as well as everybody else, and I can't make it come right for you to have other people's burdens and expense to bear as well as your own. 'Taint right at all!" and good old farmer Byram rose, knocked the ashes from his pipe, and limped off to bed, coughing a staccato accompaniment to his halting steps.

Mrs. Byram sat thinking and rocking a few moments; then, sighing heavily, she rose and went into the house, locking the front door behind her, and murmuring as she did so—

"I don't believe they'll have the heart to come."

The June days went by, one after another. A hot June, everyone called it. Haying time came, and with it the added care of hired hay-makers, for Mr. Byram was too feeble to do much except to oversee and direct the men. Mrs. Byram spent the long, hot days from five in the morning until sunset in her kitchen, cooking bread, pies, doughnuts and gingerbread, boiling meat and vegetables, and making "sweetened water" for the hungry and thirsty men. Into the midst of it came the widowed daughter Maria and her little Ernest. Maria white and thin from the heat of the city, and the winter's work of taking boarders for a normal school in her neighborhood. But she could not sit idle and see her mother work, even though she needed rest; so together the two women worked, and talked, and exchanged the confidences so dear to mother and daughter; while they cooked, and washed dishes, and were happy in each other's company. Meanwhile little Ernest followed his grandpa around, and helped and hindered all he could.

One hot day, just as the dinner had been cleared away, and Mrs. Byram and Maria had seated themselves on the cool porch to rest and "piece patchwork" until it should be time to get supper the stage stopped at the gate. The two women looked up in dismay.

"The land! Maria, it's Cousin Ellen, sure as you're a living woman!"

"It surely is," ejaculated Maria, "and she has all four of those dreadful children with her. You ain't fit to have them here, mother, and I'm going to tell her so."

"No, no, Maria, you mustn't. She's come so far we mustn't drive her off. Maybe she won't stay but a week."

"She will, too, mother. She'll stay a month at least. Just look at her trunks, three of them!" and Maria groaned as she followed her mother down the yard to greet her guests.

"How do you do, cousin Sabriny?" called Ellen, in a loud strident voice as they approached her. "How do, Maria? Surprised to see us? Well, you see, we hadn't time to write, for my cook got mad and left me yesterday morning because I told her I was going to do without a housemaid this summer, and she must do the chamberwork and sweeping, and table-waiting. She has had an easy time all winter, and I don't think she had any right to complain if the work is a bit harder this summer; but she flew into a rage and took herself off at once. I had already let the housemaid go, so there was no one to do a hand's turn, and I had to get away. I knew it wouldn't make a bit of difference to you if I didn't write beforehand, and the children were wild to come," and Mrs. Brooks stopped to scream breathlessly at one of the wild children who was balancing himself on the well curb to see where the bucket went to when it was lowered.

Mrs. Byram hurried to the spot, and Maria seized the moment of her absence to say:—

"But, cousin Ellen, didn't Aunt Ellen tell you how frail father is this summer, and how worn out mother is with the care of him? I think mother wrote to her about it early in the spring."

"Why I think she did say something about his not being very well, and your mother being a little tired; but I supposed that was all over long ago."

"No, my father is very feeble this summer, and besides being unable to attend to his work

he requires a great deal of care and waiting upon and needs a quiet home, too, he lies down so frequently."

"La now, I'm sorry Uncle Byram is failing, but you mustn't lose heart. Probably it is only the heat, and he will soon be better. We'll do all we can to give him cheerful conversation, and take his thoughts off himself. I shouldn't wonder if that is what he needs. The children won't disturb him, dear little souls! They will be out of doors all the time."

Maria had no time to say more, for by this time they had reached the house where her mother joined them again, and her father came out to welcome the guests. A scream from Ernest drew her around to the back door, where she found two of the visitors dragging his matted kitten around the yard by the tail, and stoning it for scratching them. Peace was restored, and order reigned until at the tea table one of the boys complained because his saucer of strawberries was not so full as his brother's, and the whole meal was spoiled by his whining and faultfinding.

The next morning it was no better. Cousin Ellen, arrayed in a fresh white wrapper, sat in the cool sittingroom and crocheted edging, while Maria spent the whole forenoon trying to keep the peace among the wrangling children, and to prevent her father being annoyed by them; and her mother struggled on alone in the hot kitchen, with her work more than doubled by the advent of the city cousins.

Two or three weeks went on in this way, until one afternoon the stage again stopped at the gate, and discharged Cousin Susan and her two babies.

"Now I hope I don't intrude, Aunt Sabriny," she cried, as she glanced about her at Mrs. Brooks and her noisy brood, and Maria and Ernest, "but it is just this way—my baby has been sick for a week from the hot weather in Boston, and yesterday took sick in just the same way, and the doctor said that I must get into the country at once, or he wouldn't answer for the consequences; so I started right off this morning, without waiting to write to you. I didn't dream that you had so much other company; but any way, it was the only thing I could do, for I couldn't run the risk of losing my babies," and Susan took off her own and the children's hats, settled the children comfortably on the rug, and ran into the pantry for cookies for them—all in such a matter-of-course way, as if she owned the place, that Maria could bear it no longer, and was on the point of pouring forth a flood of angry words when she caught her mother's eye. Mrs. Byram shook her head and beckoned her silently into her bedroom.

"Mother, it's outrageous!" she began; but Mrs. Byram checked her.

"Yes, I know, daughter; it does seem kind of wearin'; but I can't grudge the little creatures the fresh air they need so badly. We'll have to let 'em stay a spell, Maria."

"Well, but mother, it will kill you, and I'm not going to let you be killed by Susan's babies, now. Better they than you, any day. Besides, Susan can go somewhere else, and pay her board. There's Mrs. Mixer would be glad to make a little money in taking boarders."

"Well, daughter, so she might; but you know she won't do it if we ask her, and it would only make her dreadful angry with us if we should mention it; so we shouldn't gain anything but her ill will. No, no; better take things as they are, and make the best of them. But I should like to have things more quiet for father's sake," she murmured as she went into the kitchen and started the fire to bake biscuits for her large family.

The next day Daisy was cross, and the baby screamed for cookies and fruit. Susan let them both have their own way in all things, and eat whatever they wished; and so in a few days both were seriously ill; and as their mother had no "faculty" in sickness Maria had them both to manage and take care of, while Susan sat idly by and nearly drove her frantic with her silly suggestions and interference. If Maria had one child quietly sleeping on the lounge while the other lay in her arms Susan was sure to come in and wake the sleeper by fussing over it in some way. Then she would take the other child from Maria's arms, and when she had made it thoroughly uncomfortable she would drop both, and leave the room saying—

"They are the worst children I ever saw! It makes no difference how much I do for them, they scream whenever I touch them."

Father Byram stayed alone in his bedroom now the greater part of the time trying to bear the noise and confusion as well as he could, and gazing patiently and pathetically out over the green fields from which his noisy visitors debarred him.

One hot, still morning his wife found herself unable to get out of bed. Her strength seemed to be all gone, and she could not so much as lift her head from her pillow. "Never mind," she said, "I am only tired. Tomorrow I shall be all right." But tomorrow came, and she was not all right, and when a neighbor came in to

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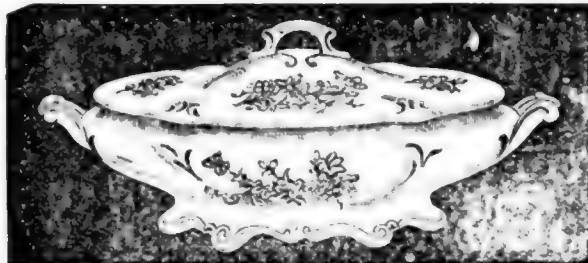
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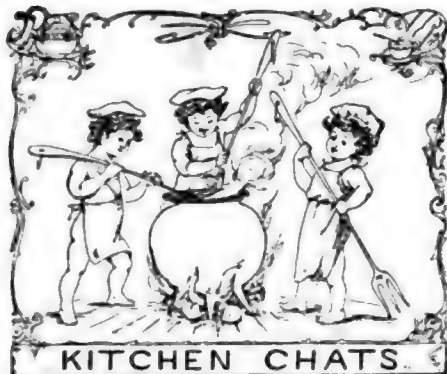
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Please accept my heartfelt thanks for those lovely dishes. You do not know how I appreciate them. I can not thank you enough. Hope that God above will bless you in my praise.  
MRS. EUNICE DANIELS,  
McComb City, Miss.

I am more than pleased with the dinner set; they are simply handsome; words fail to tell how pleased I am with them.  
MRS. KITA L. TIMEBMAN,  
Marietta, Ill.



KITCHEN CHATS.

CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



THE "Pie Belt" isn't bounded by any particular states, although we all think of New England when pie is mentioned; but it seems to be just as popular in one part of our great and glorious country as another—also in the Mother Country—only by there they call them "tarts."

While pie isn't as wholesome as fruit, or a simple cottage pudding for dessert, it is still in great demand, and the housewife must know how to make light and delicate pastry, for if the family will have pie, it must be given them in as wholesome and digestible a condition as possible. For the benefit of those housewives who are willing to learn how to make it in the easiest manner and gain the desired result of lightness and delicacy, we give the following method for making plain paste and puff paste.

**PLAIN PASTE.**  
Wash one-fourth cup butter and form in a circular piece. Add one-half teaspoon salt to one and one-half cups flour and work in one-fourth cup lard with the tips of the finger. Moisten to a dough with cold water. Toss on a board dredged sparingly with flour and roll out into a square piece one-fourth inch thick. Place the roll of butter on center of lower half of the paste. Cover the butter by folding the upper half of paste over it. Press edges firmly to enclose as much air as possible. Fold the right side of paste over the enclosed butter and the left side under enclosed butter; cover and let stand five minutes. Roll the paste out to one-fourth inch thickness, lifting often and dredging board with small amount of flour to keep it from sticking. Fold from ends to center, making three layers. Cover and let stand five minutes. Repeat twice, turning paste half way round each time before rolling. After fourth rolling fold from ends to center and double, making four layers. Put in a cold place to chill.

Puff paste is made in the same way, using one pound butter, one pound pastry flour and cold water.

The butter should be washed, to remove salt and buttermilk, thus making it of a waxy consistency and easy to handle. To wash butter: Scald and chill an earthen bowl. Heat the palms of the hands in hot water and chill in cold water, and then the butter will not adhere to the bowl or hands. Wash the butter in the bowl by squeezing with the hands until soft and waxy, placing the bowl under a cold water faucet and allowing the water to run.

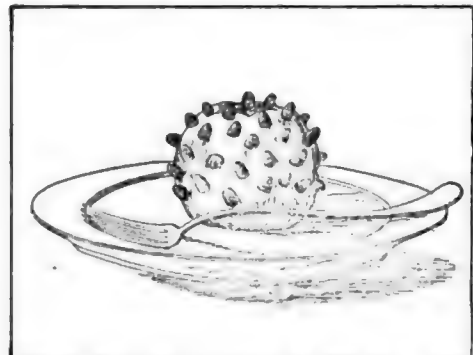
Puff paste is used for patties, cheese straws, tarts, vol-au-vents, etc.

### QUICK PASTE.

Mix three-fourths teaspoon salt with one and one-half cups flour. Cut in one-fourth cup of cottolene or coconut butter with a knife. Moisten to dough with cold water. Toss on floured board, roll out and roll up like jelly roll.

### APPLE PIE.

Line a pie plate with paste. Pare, core and cut four or five sour apples into eighths; put row around plate one-half inch from edge and work toward center until the plate is covered,



BAKED APPLE WITH ALMONDS.

then pile on the remainder. Mix one-third cup sugar, one-fourth teaspoon grated nutmeg, one-eighth teaspoon salt, one teaspoon lemon juice and a few gratings of lemon rind, and sprinkle over the apples. Dot over with one teaspoon butter. Wet the edges of under

crust, cover with upper crust (in which slits have been made to let the air out) and press edges together. Bake forty or forty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

If evaporated apples are to be used instead of fresh ones, they should be soaked over night in cold water.

### BLUEBERRY PIE.

Line a deep plate with plain paste; fill with two and one-half cups blueberries dredged with flour; sprinkle with one-half cup sugar and one-eighth teaspoon salt. Cover and bake forty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

### CURRENT PIE.

Mix one-fourth cup flour with one cup sugar; add yolks of two eggs slightly beaten and diluted with two tablespoons water. Wash one cup currants, drain, remove and measure; add to first mixture and bake on one crust. Cool and cover with meringue. Cook in slow oven until lightly browned.

### MERINGUE.

Beat whites of two eggs until stiff; add two tablespoons powdered sugar gradually and continue beating; then add one-half teaspoon lemon juice or one-fourth teaspoon vanilla.

### CUSTARD PIE.

Beat two eggs slightly, add three tablespoons sugar, one-eighth teaspoon salt and one and one-half cups milk. Line deep plate with paste and build up fluted rim. Strain in the mixture and sprinkle with nutmeg. Bake in quick oven to set rim, and decrease the heat afterwards, as egg and milk in combination need to be cooked at a low temperature.

### LEMON PIE.

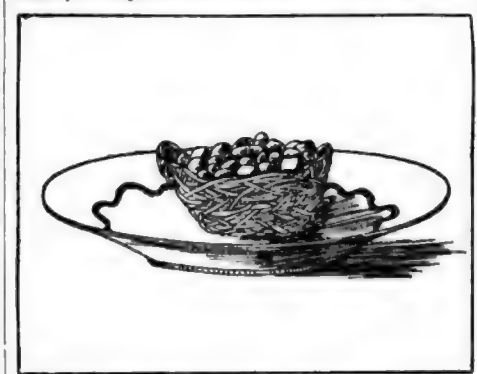
Three-fourths cup sugar; three-fourths cup boiling water; three tablespoons corn-starch; two eggs; three tablespoons lemon juice; grated rind of one lemon; one teaspoon butter. Mix corn-starch and sugar, add boiling water, stirring constantly. Cook two minutes; add butter, egg yolks, rind and juice of lemon. Line plate with paste same as for custard pie. Turn in mixture after it has cooled and bake until filling is well browned. Cool slightly and cover with meringue; then return to oven and bake meringue.

### SQUASH PIE.

Mix one-fourth cup sugar, one-half teaspoon salt, one-fourth teaspoon cinnamon, ginger or nutmeg, add one and one-fourth cups steamed and strained squash, and one egg, slightly beaten; then add seven-eighths cup milk gradually. Bake in one crust.

### MINCE PIE.

Four pounds lean beef; two pounds beef suet; Baldwin apples; three quinces; three pounds sugar; two cups molasses, two quarts cider; four pounds raisins seeded and cut in



BON BON BASKET.

pieces; three pounds currants; one-half pound finely cut citron; one quart cooking brandy; one tablespoon each of cinnamon and mace; one tablespoon powdered clove; two grated nutmegs; one teaspoon pepper; salt to taste.

Cover meat and suet with boiling water and cook until tender; cool in water in which they were cooked; the suet will rise to the top forming a cake of fat which is easily removed. Chop meat fine and add it to twice the amount of finely chopped apples. The apples should be quartered, cored and pared before chopping. Add quinces finely chopped, sugar, molasses, cider, raisins, currants and citron, also suet and stock in which meat was cooked, reduced to one and one-half cups. Heat gradually, stir and cool slowly two hours. Then add brandy and spices.

Mince pies should always be baked with two crusts.

Our illustrations show apples baked with almonds, and a basket made of orange straws and filled with bon-bons. The apples are prepared by coring and paring six or eight tart apples; let them simmer in a cup each of sugar and water boiled together three minutes, until tender; turn apples often to prevent breaking. If apples are rubbed with the cut side of a lemon it will keep them white while cooking. Set the apples in an agate pan and press into them blanched and split almonds. Brown in oven and serve hot with whipped cream.

### CANDIED ORANGE PEEL.

Soak the peel of orange in salted water for three days; drain and repeat three times. Cover with cold water, let boil and then drain thoroughly. Make a syrup of one pound sugar and one pint water; skim, and in it simmer one pound of peel, cut in thin strips, until tender, then boil rapidly and stir until covered with the sugar. Weave the strips while hot and pliable into small baskets in which to serve bon-bons.

Now for that delightful poem of the late Eugene Field.

### APPLE PIE AND CHEESE.

Full many a sinful notion  
Conceived of foreign powers  
Has come across the ocean  
To harm this land of ours;  
And hence called fashions

**THE YANKEE FIRE KINDLER BUILDS 100 FIRES WITH 3 CENTS WORTH OF COAL OIL, NO KINDLING.**  
MADE OF HEAVY WIRE AND FINEST FIRE-PROOF ALBESITES.  
Warranted for three years constant use. Greatest seller for agents ever invented. Agents selling price 50 cts. Exclusive territory to workers. Ten kindlers sold per day nets agent \$4.00 clear profit. Clarence J. Smith, of Middletown, Md., has just sent in his 32nd order, having sold \$450.00 worth in Frederick County, his exclusive territory. In every home there is a fire to build and every body "hates to job." You are welcome at every door all ablaze and explain it's work. Eager customers everywhere—glad to get some.

W. G. Wiseman, Edgewood, Texas, agent for Van Zandt County, ordered his first 100 kindlers, and he never sold goods before as well as these kindlers, from a dozen to as high as 20 and 30 a day. Miss Glenn Young, Lampasas Texas, agent for Lampasas County, writes "Ship another 100 by express. Am sold-out." We will appoint an agent in every county in the United States. Hundreds open yet but they are being taken fast. To anyone honestly interested in securing agency we will mail a sample (weight one-half pound, length 15 inches) prepaid with terms, on receipt of 15c stamps. Most welcome to you to send a premium to examine. If you are satisfied pay \$2.99 & Exp. charges. Calumet Mfg. & Imp. Co., Dept. 17, Chicago.

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Have modesty effaced,  
And baleful, morbid passions  
Corrupt our native taste.  
O tempora! O mores!  
What profanations these  
That seek to dim the glories  
Of apple pie and cheese!

I'm glad my education  
Enables me to stand  
Against the vile temptation  
Held out on every hand.  
Eschewing all the tittles  
With vanity rebuked.  
I'm loyal to the virtuous  
Our grandeur used to eat!  
I'm glad I've got three willing boys,  
To hang around and tease  
Their mother for the filling joys  
Of apple pie and cheese!

Your flavored creams and ices  
And your dainty angel-food  
Are mighty fine devices  
To regale the dainty dude;  
Your terrapin and oysters,  
With wine to wash them down,  
Are just the thing for roisters  
When painting of the town;  
No flippant, sugared notion  
Shall my appetite appease,  
Or bate my soul's devotion  
To apple pie and cheese!

The pie my Julia makes me  
(God bless her Yankee ways!)  
On memory's pinions takes me  
To dear Green Mountain days;  
And seems like I saw mother  
Lean on the window-sill,  
A-handin' me and brother  
What she knows'll keep us still;  
And these feelings are so grateful,  
Says I, "Julia, if you please,  
I'll take another plateful  
Of that apple pie and cheese!"

De gustibus, 'tis stated,  
Non disputandum est.  
Which meaneth, when translated,  
That all is for the best.  
So let the foolish choose 'em,  
The rapid sweets of sin,  
I will not disabuse 'em  
Of the heresy they're in;  
But I, when I undress me  
Each night, upon my knees  
Will ask the Lord to bless me  
With apple pie and cheese!

### DEAR READER:

Pursuing our regular policy of making our magazines attractive we can promise many new features the coming season.

To extend the circulation of all our publications we have arranged a line of very attractive premiums in bound form for our customers and will gladly send a copy of our latest issue gratis to every one making their want known to this office on a postal card.

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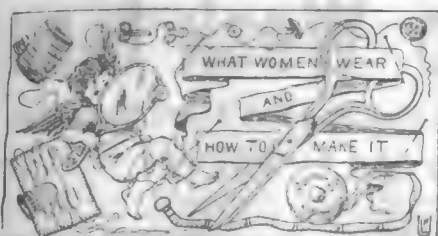
**BEST WAY.** We send ONE of the above complete assortment into FREE as a premium to all who secure trial subscribers to our great 5 color magazine "COMFORT," the best and most Home Monthly now published, and in order to get you to advertise "COMFORT" to your friends and neighbors we will send free with each package our new book, **With Eight Full-Page Illustrations**, for ornamenting the seams of Crazy Patchwork, or for other ornamental work where the fancy stitches are used. It has no equal. It shows how pieces of patchwork may be put together to get the best effect, how to cover an entire room with fancy stitches, how to join edges, etc. It illustrates over one hundred and fifty of these besides directions for taking ART EMBROIDERY, completing the Outline and Kensington Stitch, Arranging and Chenille Embroidery, Ribbon Work, Plush or Tufted Stitch, etc. It also tells how to do Kensington Patching.

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**CLUB OFFER.** **ONE TWO FOUR**





WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

**H**AND-PAINTING, as a decoration for gowns, daily becomes more popular. For instance a dainty gown of crisp white taffeta trimmed with a multitude of little frills of white mousseline de soie, has, as a heading to these frills quite a wide band of hand-painted flowers in delicate pinks and greens. When one is not naturally artistic or clever with the brush, there are the artificial blooms in cotton and silk fabrics for applique.

A clever girl, finding elbow gloves a considerable addition in expense and being not over blessed with pin-money buys those of ordinary length to which she adds fitted arm-lets of lace, black or white, as the case may be. The effect is smart, and quite as satisfactory as if she had paid the price for the long glove.

Then to dress the neck is more or less of a worry, especially now that collars are worn so much lower than has been the case in years. Bodices intended for indoor wear may be quite collarless, when the throat is sufficiently pretty; or, if lace is used on the gown, a single narrow band of the lace fitted to the neck and boned with tiny whale bones covered so as not to be seen or run through by a narrow velvet ribbon to keep it in place is quite correct. The day of the high stock has gone and we have

collar of white biege appliqued handsomely with yellow lace of a coarse pattern, furnishing an uneven edge. This collar is round and flat, and is caught together at the front by a soft knot and ends of pale blue crepe de chine. Large silver buttons of an antique design fasten the garment down the front.

In Paris the fashion of wearing the hair low in the neck has become so universal that the old style, high on the head, seems remarkably passe. The hair is still combed back, a la pompadour, and pushed well forward by means of the sidecombs, but the mass of hair is gathered at the nape of the neck, and braided loosely or twisted into a figure eight and fastened snugly into place. A flat bow of black velvet, placed at just the right angle, is the popular mode of decoration, and proves most becoming. For evening wear the hair is worn low also, and made smart by the clever adjustment of a posie,



or newer still, two small rosettes of ribbon placed on opposite sides of the braids.

Coats for fall made of velvet or corduroy are exceedingly smart and most comfortable. They are quite long and perfectly loose, and with their big sleeves and collars are wonderfully picturesque.

## The New Apron.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



**C**LARA May lived in a big square house with a large flower garden in front, and a big back garden behind, a nice side yard for her to play in and a big green field for her to pick daisies and buttercups in. There was a swing for her in the stable, a hammock in the front yard, a whole room full of playthings, a canary bird, a pussy cat, and whole trees full of birds which woke her in the morning by their sweet songs, and sung her to sleep again at night. She was a pretty little girl, with white hair that curled all over

her head, blue eyes and rosy cheeks.

In the house with Clara lived her mamma, her grandma and grandpa, her Aunt Saeie, Uncle Dave, Uncle Ned, Cousin Sam, and Mary, the cook. Papa was away at sea.

In the next house lived Lottie May, who was just as old as Clara, but who had brown hair, brown eyes, and the prettiest little dimple in her chin. Lottie had only her papa and mamma in the house with her, and she thought it rather unfair that Clara should have so many people in the house while she had so few.

There was a fence between Clara's yard and Lottie's yard, so that the two little girls could not get at each other without going away down to the gate and round by the street to the other gate and up the other yard, and they were continually running away to do so.

One day when Uncle Ned was coming home to dinner he found little Lottie away down the street, trudging along alone.

"Where are you going little one?" said he.

"Oh, I am going to see Caga and show her my new apen."

"But you are going the wrong way. You won't get to Clara's house this way."

"Oh, 'es I will. I is doin' 'ee millpond way to det some daisies for her."

Uncle Ned thought the front way would be the safest, and so he picked Lottie up in his arms and carried her home, telling her mother, whom he met at the gate looking for her, that he would hand her over the fence as soon as she had showed Clara her new apron.

Next day Clara trotted over to the fence and called to her little friend:—"Dottie, where 'oo det 'oo new apen?"

"My mamma buyed it down to Mr. Percy's store."

"Has he dot any more?"

"Es, heaps 'um."

"Oh, dear," said Clara, "I wis my mamma would buy me one, but she says I've dot 'nuff apens."

"Well, let's do down and ask Mr. Percy to div 'oo one. He's dot drate lots of apens."

So off started the two naughty little girls hand in hand, bare-headed, bound for Mr. Percy's store and the "apens". They trotted on—now stopping to pick a daisy, now watching a pussy cat run up a tree, now frightened by a big dog which they thought would surely bite them, and now admiring the beautiful dolly which a little girl was taking to ride in a doll carriage, until Mr. Percy himself came driving by in his delivery wagon. He knew them both, for his home was the very next one

on the street to Clara's home, and he knew that the two small girls must have run away from their mammas; so he stopped his horse and spoke to them.

"Good morning, little women; where are you going so fast?"

"Oh," said Clara, "we's doin down to 'oo store to det me a apen like Dottie's."

"Indeed! then I'm very glad that I came along. Now you both jump right in here with me, and we'll go down to the store for it and then I'll take you home."

So with great delight the children allowed themselves to be lifted into the wagon, and away they all went to the store, where

kind Mr. Percy not only allowed Clara to select an apron for herself "just like Dottie's", but he presented each of them with a lovely "hankvish" with a pink border of pussy cats. Then he drove them home as fast as he could, for he knew that their mammas must be hunting everywhere for their runaway daughters.

Next day Lottie's papa saved a piece right out of the fence between the two houses so that the little girls need not be obliged to go around by the street to get to each other, and he put a strong fastening on each of the street gates, which the little hands could not open, and so Lottie and Clara could not run away any more.

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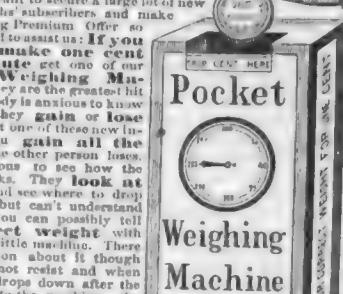
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## An Army of Heroes.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



iant battle against the despotism of ignorance and disease. I refer to the common country physician.

Each diploma grants the possibility of becoming a medical Dewey, but each physician knows that only an infinitesimal per cent. ever receive fame however much they may deserve it, and that ninety per cent. must, perforce, spend their lives in little country towns.

It is of this ninety per cent. we speak, misjudged frequently because their inner life and motives are so largely unknown. Most have one or two motives for adopting the noblest and most arduous profession: an inborn love of the work, an intellectual fascination for building up the intricate human machine; or, that highborn love of humanity that leads a man to give years of hard study preparatory to a life of service and usefulness, a life like the Master's in that daily duty is doing inexpressibly difficult and disagreeable things for the suffering. A good conscience is its own reward—and too frequently the physician's only reward. He must learn to endure hardness with patience if he would win. This is burned into his experience again and again.

There is no time day or night the active physician does not hold himself in readiness to answer calls, be it far or near, fair weather or foul, 98 degrees in the shade or twenty-eight below zero, roads good or almost impassable, be the patient a pay patient or one who cannot pay, be the illness serious or only a nervous freak. Only those who have tried it know what it is to be on duty seven days in the week—as a physician necessarily is.

If there is any class which needs the comfort and strength of religion it is they, yet if he attends church and is frequently called out professionally, it is said to be an advertising dodge, so, too frequently, he stays away altogether. Often a diversion of creed keeps pastor and physician from working shoulder to shoulder—to the detriment of the usefulness of each.

Because a physician is paid (and his fee is gauged by store prices of farm produce) many people feel they own their physician body and soul. Most physicians feel their best professional service is all the patient is entitled to, and decidedly object to being considered common property, owned by a stock company of invalids.

If patients recover many times the physician is credited with the cure. In equally many instances credit is given to the ministrations of some universal "aunt" or for reasons climatic or constitutional.

If the results are unfavorable it is almost always the doctor's fault. It is more because the medicines were taken irregularly, or the exposure, or exercise, or other disregard of directions, or a critical period. Knowing the cause of failure to be other than himself, still the physician has no alternative but silently to bear the blame that is not his.

Comparatively few country people permit themselves to realize what every well-read physician knows that excepting acute and surgical cases, hygienic laws are worth as much to them as medicine. They won't believe the physician's advice of a diet, bathing, exercise and sanitation generally is worth more than his drugs. Many a man pays a dollar for a big bottle of nauseous stuff for his "liver" who could free himself from indigestion by the simple observance of hygienic laws. The physician who is brave enough to intimate a lack of personal cleanliness usually finds his advice spurned, or the patient betakes himself in high dudgeon to a doctor "what knows doctorin'."

A great drawback to his professional success is the dearth of trained nurses, for it is the almost invariable custom in rural communities for neighbors to "take turns" in the care of the sick. With the best of intentions and all kindness of heart these self constituted nurses are not always a blessing. Not only because they sometimes forget directions, and at others "take matters into their own hands," but oftentimes they don't know the essentials of good nursing, noiseless movements, quiet and calm in crises, how to change the linen, and give baths without subjecting the patient to chill or draft, how properly to prepare gruels, broths, jellies, etc., while country prejudice is a solid bulwark against the use of ice water and cold packs in cases of inflammation and fever.

The greatest hardships are not purely physical. People do realize the constant demands on a physician's sympathy, or the depressing influence of case after case of acute suffering—in so many instances the patient is beyond permanent help. The wrongs he sees inflicted upon the helpless which he is powerless to prevent, the tragedies he alone knows and sometimes even crimes that he is asked to be party to, and because he refuses to make base uses of a noble science his own character is smirched in baffled revenge, all these things test the metal of the man. Fortunately in most cases the metal rings true. They don't realize the tremendous strain on a man who performs surgical operations when the deviation of a hair's breadth is a question of sight or blindness, of life or death. They don't realize how it saps the vital forces to sit many hours without once removing the eyes from a patient that no subtle change may escape his notice, one hand on the ebbing pulse, the other administering stimulants as needed in the hand to hand fight with death, sitting in heat, or cold, or draft as may be best for the patient without one minute's respite lest the last great change come in the momentary unwatchfulness. They can't realize the anxiety of having patients day after day whose lives are swaying in uncertainty between here and the beyond, where even his utmost endeavors can be of no avail. These are some of the things not included in the bill. Most physicians will bear witness that in half the cases this is the last bill to be paid.

Patients expect and need the sympathy and loyalty of their physicians. Do they reflect that in an equal measure, the physician needs theirs? Do patients often thank a physician for giving up a longed-for trip or calling when he should himself be in bed and cared for, to save their temporarily changing doctors? When some ill-natured gossip or damaging report is current (and such remarks are made of every physician), does the patient promptly say, "I credit no such rumor. I believe Dr. Smith did his best."

There is no filth or disease so loathsome, no place so poor or vile but the physician must go there, or be branded a coward, though possibly not another respectable person in town will risk their reputation by crossing the threshold.

It is a physician's business to heal complaints but patients should make their complaints to him—not of him. Patients are free to tell him when his medicines are not palatable, when they don't relieve, when he hurts in the treatment, that he didn't come when he said he would and for no good reason, all of which may be strictly true. But when the firm touch is gentle, when the obstinate disease is conquered is it any less fair to tell your physician that?

The common country physician should be a strong man intellectually and morally, whose purity of character and life inspires the respect and trust of all, for he has thousands of opportunities to do good that no other human being can have. The man who brings you into this world, who all the way along pulls you through all the physical crises of life, who knows more of your sorrows than any but the very nearest kin, whose firm hand takes your last heart throb, this man should be (and in more cases than we always realize, is) a tower of strength in a community.

"Not to him who rashly dares,  
But to him who nobly bears,  
Is the victor's garland sure."

## The American Chair Industry.



HE American chair-making industry, one of the most important of the interests which have made our country famous, was founded early in the nineteenth century in one of the New England States. Four brothers had for some years been engaged in the manufacture of chair stock, and finally in the year 1830 they purchased a small factory in Gardner, Mass., and there was laid the foundation of the present immense business, in the production of this furniture.

The writer spent some hours recently inspecting the various departments of the concern, and while it would be impossible to relate a tenth part of the interesting points connected with the business in the present brief article, still, a general idea of the business can be presented to the readers of COMFORT.

The stock used in the manufacture of chairs is for the most part oak and maple, though other woods are occasionally handled. It comes from the mill sawed to the right size and shape, the length varying from six inches to six feet. In the Gardner factories alone there is used annually over 25,000,000 feet. Having been thoroughly dried in kilns, it is sent to a department where it is shaped into the various parts that go to make up a chair, spindles, rungs, backs, seats, etc. The parts that require bending are placed in a sort of boiler and made supple by the action of steam, after which they are easily bent into any required shape.

Numerous machines are used in the finishing of the wood, all ingenious and worthy of attention, but none more so than one designed for imitating hand carving. The back of the future chair, it may be, is introduced into this machine, which is in reality a great press of enormous power fitted with dies of almost every conceivable design. An instant of pressure and the plain wood is transformed into a richly carved back, more regular and certainly as beautiful as the best hand-workman can produce. This machine is capable of turning out five thousand backs daily.

The different parts having been rounded out and finished, they are sent to a department called the assembling-room, where the chair is put together.

The cane and rattan that is used in the manufacture of the seats and other portions of the chair, come from swampy forests in the East Indies, Sumatra, Borneo and other adjacent islands. It is a species of the palm tree and grows to a great height, though rarely over an inch in diameter. Free from knots and peculiarly tough, it is splendidly adapted for the use to which it is put. It reaches the factory in bundles of about one hundred pieces each, doubled in the middle and securely tied.

Formerly this rattan was prepared entirely by hand, the outer coating being slit off with a sharp knife. This, however, is a thing of the past, machinery doing the work in a tenth part of the time, more accurately and less wastefully.

In the early days of chair-making the strips of cane were woven into the so-called Chinese pattern by hands, a slow, laborious process; machinery has done away with the most of this at the present time, however, the seats and backs being woven in much the same manner as textile fabrics. The strips of cane are first joined together by means of small metallic clasps and wound onto great spools. These spools are sent to the weaving room where they are woven into the cane fabric, the strands crossing each other at right angles. Up to the present time there has been no machine devised that would weave the octagonal design, known as the Chinese pattern, hence it is necessary to weave the diagonal strands by hand, girls on each side of the cane fabric inserting a needle in the proper meshes, this needle leaving behind a single strand of cane. This having been accomplished, it is sent to the department where the frames are ready for seating.

The cane fabric having been secured to the frame, the chairs are now ready for the finishing touches, some going to the staining and varnishing departments, others being reserved

## Proclamation to Weak Men

Charity, the Noblest Impulse of Man, Exemplified by a Well Known Missourian.

SENT FREE TO ALL MEN!

W. S. Harter, an honored and influential citizen of Nevada, Mo., makes a statement and an overgenerous offer that comes in the shape of a proclamation of health to all afflicted with lost vitality and its kindred ailments. His case was a most pitiable one, by reason of continual

remedy may not prove in every case so wonderfully beneficial as it did in his. For this reason he gave 60 sufferers the treatment, and in every instance the same wonderful results were experienced as was in his case, so he now says he will send every sufferer of this death-dealing



drainage, his constitution was weakened to such a degree that it was impossible for him to perform his duties. He spent hundreds of dollars for remedies and to specialists, but could not regain his vitality or check the awful drainage. One day a brother lodge member called his attention to a remedy, in fact, implored Mr. Harter to take the remedy for his affliction; he did so, and in one month's time was entirely cured, his constitution rejuvenated and his vitality regained. Today he is a man in every sense which that word would imply. Mr. Harter is not what one would call an immensely rich man, but his gratitude for this marvelous remedy is so great that he says he intends making his life's labor that of putting this remedy in the hands of all those afflicted as he was. Mr. Harter, being a very conscientious man, thought perhaps the

disease, Lost Vitality and its kindred ailments, absolutely free, the means which directed him to health and contentment. At Nevada, Mo., there is located State Asylum No. 3, in which there are at present about 700 patients; Mr. Harter claims that upon good authority he is informed that about 75 per cent of these unfortunates lost their minds through this disease, and the awful drainage brought upon them. With this awful picture ever before him, he believes it is his duty to humanity to save those now upon a brink of destruction, which is much worse than death. Any reader sending his name and address to Mr. W. S. Harter, 232 Ash Street, Nevada, Mo., will receive without delay, and free of charge, this wonderful knowledge.

for shipment "in the wood," to be finished upon arriving at their destination. The majority of the chairs that are to be shipped any considerable distance are put together without glue, so that they can be "knocked down" for shipment in the closest possible form.

It is interesting to note the characteristics of the different nations as revealed by the style of chairs which they import. The Germans demand a heavily built chair, quite in keeping with their personality. The French desire a lighter construction, contrasting strongly with their neighbors, the Germans. Goods sent to Cuba, Mexico and Spain are almost entirely of light colored wood and are made in sets that match. The Netherlands, Belgium and Dutch Colonies seem to follow the German style, while the Japanese are more like the French.

The acorn of seventy years ago has grown into the great oak. The business started in a small room in a country village has spread out until today thousands of hands are employed in the mother-town alone, all working together to produce something that will make life easier for others—a chair, an American chair, the acme of excellence.

\$1000 A YEAR

once required. Any worthy Man or Woman desiring a good paying position with no canvassing to do, should write at once. We can show \$3.00 a day for expenses in addition to payments provided for in contract of \$83.33 per month, and share profits on business. As soon as arrangements are completed for your change, we will find week's expenses. We want 12 honest, ambitious persons who will appreciate the advantages offered in them and who desire to be connected with a large concern where they will be well treated and have an opportunity to build up with the house. Address with references and stamp for reply. PRESIDENT MONROE CO., 320 Monon Building, CHICAGO.

## WOMAN'S DELIGHT AND MAN'S PRIDE.

An Article in which Luxury and Utility are Harmoniously Blended.

BEAUTIFUL IN DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND USE.

A writing desk and bookcase are indispensable in every home. We are enabled to make it possible for every reader of this paper to obtain a fashionable and luxurious article of furniture which will be of use every hour in the day, and which by its rich elegance and tasteful appearance, will prove an ornament in every home where it is placed.

## THE ELITE WRITING DESK AND BOOKCASE

is richly designed in the artistic and graceful Modern-Antique Style that is the correct style in the homes of wealthy and fashionable people in society. It is built of clear, solid oak, in a thorough and substantial manner, and will last a century with ordinary care, growing handsomer as the wood constantly improves with age. It is 5 feet in height, and 2 feet 6 inches in width. Four large, deep shelves for books or vases and bric-a-brac; and a splendid desk with folding top, full complement of pigeon-holes and receptacles for paper, envelopes, letters, bills, securities, etc. In fact, a perfect and complete secretary for the library, the office, the parlor, or anywhere where an ornamental desk is needed. The most desirable premium ever offered to the people at a popular cost, and everyone guaranteed satisfactory.

**SPECIAL OFFER.** We give away this beautiful Desk premium for a small club of subscriptions and if you will send only 30 trial yearly subscribers at 15c. each we will send our charming magazine one year to each and one desk to you as a premium. Or you may send 18 two-year subscriptions at 25c. each, and we will send magazines and premium as above. We will send this splendid premium for only \$5.00 cash, freight charges only to be paid by the receiver on arrival. This piece of furniture is guaranteed and will be carefully packed and protected before shipment is made. Address LANE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

**BOYS & GIRLS** **FREE**

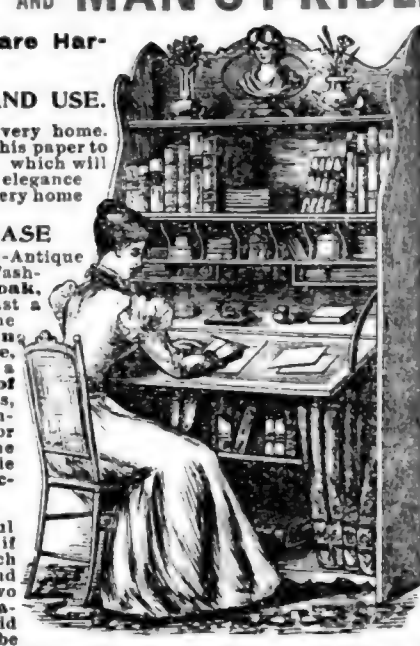
Can get the beautiful WATCH, with a handsome chain for boys and a gold plated chatelaine for girls, for selling only 8 of our MAGNIFICENT FAMILY RECORDS at 25 cents each to friends and neighbors. The records are in 8 colors, and make a most magnificent ornament for any home. Watch is finely finished, has an American movement and is warranted to keep time equal to watches costing \$25 or more. Send only name and address and we will send you the 8 Records postpaid. When sold send us the \$2 and we will send watch with either gentleman's chain or lady's chatelaine, as you wish.

W. R. WILLIAMS, Dept. C. F., Montclair, N. J.

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## TALKS WITH GIRLS.

CONDUCTED BY  
COUSIN MARION.

In the purple October, dear cousins, and a month of the Autumn gone. I wonder if the falling leaves and the dying summer make you d. I fancy they do, or you would not be like anybody else in the world. However, we have time to be sad, and we should thank God for that. Now let us go to work.

The first to arrive is Senior of Columbus, Kans., who has a girl friend and a man friend, who are not terms with each other, and as this embarrasses her she wants to know which to give up. Don't give either. If either want to let you go, let that one take the break. (2) Better graduate at the High school than to lose it for \$2 a week.

Clover, Lisbon Falls, Me.—It is not right to accept a man's escort and go home with another, whether you like him or not. (2) Wait at least half an hour for an expected caller from a distance. (3) You may ask a man for his picture.

Ray and Gay, Blythe, Pa.—If he is too bashful to write after you telling him he might, he is not worth bothering about. (2) Treat the man as you would any other. It is for him to make the advances.

Romance, Sunnyside, Cal.—The man pays the way the asks you to go to the picnic.

Sally, Lakota, N. D.—Not so very. (2) I do not know that it is very impolite for a gentleman to snap a lady's handkerchief.

S. H., Reading, Pa.—"Miss A. may I introduce (or present) Miss C." would be the formal way. Friends are much less conventional.

Puss, Coleta, Ill.—Write to Music Dep't. Comfort, or to any music dealer advertising in Comfort.

Pocahontas, Paris, Me.—Yes, and silly besides. (2) Don't ask the man whom your parents dislike to call. (3) Yes.

Babe, Sperl, Minn.—A ring might do for a Christmas present, but there are better things.

Cinderella, Lewiston, Me.—No to all your questions.

Mabel and Grace, Prentiss, Wis.—I did not think there were any girls in Wisconsin quite as silly as you two.

Leslie, Portsmouth, Va.—You can wear almost any colors you please.

Doris, Warsaw, Cal.—Massage is good for wrinkles and lines in the face. (2) Don't try any chemicals on superfluous hair. A wash of the leaves and roots ofcelandine is said to be good. Make a compress and lay on over night until the hair is removed. (3) Sunday is calling day for men, but not for women.

Madge, Galesburg, Ill.—You ought to be ashamed of yourself for letting him kiss you.

Columbine, Aurora Springs, Mo.—Moonlight picnics are only proper when there are chaperones. (2) Young men of eighteen are scarcely company for girls of twenty-eight, I should think. (3) Be polite to the man so long as he is polite to you, but have no friendship. (4) Yes.

Bye bye, Midland, Va.—A young man of twenty-three is not too old. (2) You were quite right in refusing to kiss your sister's sweetheart.

Broken Heart, Ft. Benton, Mont.—You cannot be any unhappier by marrying the young man you love, and you had better marry him and get away from your cruel father.

Pauline, Ellington, Mo.—No. (2) The young man's first duty is to you. (3) Not unless in a company. (4) Better wait until he graduates.

Rose and Pink, Circleville, O.—Thank your escort simply and talk to him as usual. You should not have escorts if you do not know how to entertain them.

Innocence, Lowell, Ind.—I cannot answer your question. It is one that each person must answer for herself. I think I would tell the man.

Sunflower, Kinsley, Kans.—It will be all right to accept the loan of the buggy. (2) The best method of making yourself attractive to young men is by not trying to.

Dolly, Altoona, Cal.—Dress to your shoe-tops, or a little lower, and braid your hair. (2) You did right in snubbing the young man.

Lonely Flora, Rosecommon, Mich.—Better not talk to your sister's beau while she is away, unless she wants you to. (2) Exchanging articles of jewelry with young men is often done, but it is not always in the best of taste. (3) Yes, ask the young man to call. (4) There is no rule about calling men by their first names. It depends on many things. Not at all with most men.

Maurien, St. Paul, Minn.—Don't sing "love songs to the gentlemen." (2) More than a good complexion is required to make girls attractive. (3) A girl may write to a man she does not intend to marry. (4) It is not good form to chew gum anywhere.

May Bloom, La Grange, Ind.—A girl of eighteen may write to a man of thirty. (2) Exchanging "tokens of friendship" depends on the tokens. (3) Let the man ask you to write to him.

E. L. H. M., Appleton, Wis.—I think there is nothing in that old fortune-telling "fate" of the Bible and the key.

M. J. W., Eddyville, Ore.—Don't make a practice of standing on the road talking to the young man. It is his place to come to see you, at home. (2) Some young people talk at the gate for hours. There is no rule. (3) Once a week is enough for a man to call who is merely a friend, but there is no rule.

Snow Flake, Courtlandt, Minn.—Your mother should have spanked you for kissing the young man.

Queenie, Echo, La.—It is very foolish to let yourself fall in love with a man whom you know only by letter. If he is honest he will visit you. Then introduce him to your parents.

Kathryn, New Paris, O.—Don't worry about the young man. If you don't hear from him, forget him. Let him keep your letters unless you are ashamed of them.

Anxious, Lombardville, Ohio.—If you are young, I think you might risk a few lessons in drawing, but take them from a regular teacher.

Blue Eyes, Brownwood, Texas.—Use your own sense and say what your heart tells you to.

Coquettes, Mewis, Mo.—Girls of fourteen and fifteen should devote themselves to books, not boys.

Fritze, Laurel, S. D.—Girls of sixteen should not marry men of any age. You will have trouble

enough without beginning so early. (2) First come, first served is the rule. That will make the one you like best try to be first. (3) Diet, exercise and washing your face in milk.

Unhappy, Ute, Iowa.—It is proper to thank a man for any courtesy that he extends to you. Thank him for the engagement ring, too, but can't you give a little more than mere thanks? (2) Merely tell the other man with thanks that you have company.

Apple Blossom, Ironton, Mo.—Don't advertise for a husband. Just wait and the right one will come after you. It will not kill you even if he does not. (2) A grand-uncle is your grand parent's brother. (3) Conversation is carried on with deaf persons by signs on the fingers or lips.

Pansy Star, Norfolk, Va.—The boy is either a knave or a fool, and you are silly to have anything more to do with him. Make him explain himself openly, or drop him entirely.

Joe and Jeannette, Steward, Ill.—I do not think you are crazy, but for seventeen year old girls you ask questions that would indicate you were very nearly being feeble-minded.

Sporty, Pine Forest, Va.—Don't let the young man kiss your hand. (2) Engaged people, married people and near kin may kiss each other. (3) If you know the young man quite well it is prudent to drive into the country with him. P. S. Why do you call yourself "Sporty"? It is not a nice word.

S. A., Hector, Minn.—The answer to all of your questions is that there is no arbitrary form for such things, and you may do as you please, so long as you do it kindly and politely.

Alumnae, Columbus, Kans.—Of course you may accept refreshments from a man you do not know, who is waiting on a crowd of people most of whom he does know. Did you ever hear the story of the lady who drowned because she had never met the man who reached into the water to save her? (2) It would seem to me that the class, not the Principal should say what it would do.

Lily of the Vale, New York City.—The girl is very forward, and you ought to help the young man snub her as she deserves to be snubbed. (2) The lady takes the man's arm.

Green Sweetheart, Bridgewater, S. D.—Accept all the attention you can get from other young men and that will bring yours around in a hurry, or drive him away altogether, which, in this case, is better.

Buttercup and Daisy, South Lancaster, Mass.—Let the young man get acquainted with you. If he wants to meet you he will find a way, if he is any good at all.

Starlight, Manhattan, Kans.—Eighteen is too young to be engaged, though some women are married earlier than that. (2) It is one of the unsolved problems how to get rid of a man you like, but don't love, without offending him. (3) Wear long dresses. (4) Better trust your parents on the man question, for the present. P. S. Tell sunshine to ask her mother the questions she asks me.

Miami Belle, Brookville, Ohio.—If you love the little man, marry him, no matter how tall you are. Love isn't to be measured with a yardstick.

There, my dears, all your questions are answered, and I hope they will be of as much value as I want them to be. By by, and may the good Lord keep you.

COUSIN MARION.

## A CURE FOR ASTHMA.

Asthma sufferers need no longer leave home and business in order to be cured. Nature has produced a vegetable remedy that will permanently cure Asthma and all diseases of the lungs and bronchial tubes. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases (with a record of 90 per cent. permanently cured), and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all sufferers from Asthma, Consumption, Catarrh, Bronchitis and nervous diseases, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail. Address with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 847 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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Spanish Needles, Rods, Goldometers for locating Gold, Silver and hidden treasures. Our instruments are the best. Catalogue 2 cents. B. G. Stauffer, Dept. C, Harrisburg, Pa.

## The Marine Band.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

**T**HE Marine Band of Washington has quite a national reputation. This large organization is a part of the regular service of the United States, and being stationed at the Capital is constantly in demand for public and social functions of various kinds. It is but just to say that they never fail, no matter how trying may be the service into which they may be called.

Musicians in the United States service, military or naval, receive regular pay, and, in addition to this, are allowed under certain rules to add to their income by playing for civilians or others for pay. In this way they earn good salaries and, as a consequence, the bands in the services become very proficient from regular practice.

The Marine Band is a very popular organization and plays for the President at the White House on all public occasions; so that they have become very well known to people visiting Washington, where they are present at most of the larger social affairs. This band plays on the White House ground every Easter Monday for the children, who for that day are allowed to "roll" eggs on the broad lawn and to have a general holiday. The piece of music published upon another page is one that was played by this noted band at President McKinley's second inaugural and received great applause. It is now of much interest on account of the feeling awakened by the recent tragedy, which makes everything relative to the late President pleasing.

**B**LOCK Island, situated fifteen miles off the shore of the state of Rhode Island, and almost directly south of the stormy Point Judith, still retains among its inhabitants the habits and customs of one hundred and fifty years ago. The busy hum of the old-fashioned spinning wheel is to be heard in every direction, and the yarn thus produced is knitted by the same hands which spun it, into stockings, mittens, and other articles for the comfort and protection of the members of her family.

The first woolen mill in Connecticut was established near the close of the last century at Oakland, the carding being done by power cards. In 1798 the Block Islanders began to send wool to this mill to be carded into rolls, and generation after generation have kept up the practice until the present day.

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We will send to any one, 4 handsome Duchesse Lace Handkerchief Patterns, all different. Also our new 100 page catalogue of Fancy Work Novelties and Handkerchiefs. All for 10 cents.  
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adjusted patent regulator, stem wind and set, high-grade full ruby jeweled movement  
**NATIONAL LIMITED**  
movement in a superbly engraved double hunting case, equal in appearance to a GENUINE 26 YEAR GOLD-FILLED WATCH WARRANTED FOR 25 YEARS.  
Send this to us and we will send the WATCH & "GOLD" CHAIN & CHARM C. O. D. \$5.50 and express charges for examination. If as represented, pay \$5.50 and express charges and it is yours. Write if you desire Ladies' or Gents' size. Nat'l Consolidated Co., Dept. 12, Chicago.

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Every family in America is ready to buy "The Light that sells on sight"—the wonderful new invention called **ARC-LIGHT WICK**. It burns a whole year without trimming. It kills a candle, disposes of kerosene, kerosene gas, and almost equals electricity or sunlight.

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Premiums will be awarded **NOT** to those sending the largest number of subscribers to The American Woman, but to those sending the largest number **IN PROPORTION** to the population of each town **IN WHICH THEY** are secured. Therefore, the person taking subscriptions in the smallest town has just as good a chance to win the largest cash prize as the person taking subscriptions in a city. For example, a person taking subscriptions in a town of 1000 population has the opportunity of winning one of the 19 prizes, and possibly may win a larger premium by sending in twenty subscriptions than would the one who sends in ninety-five from a town of 5,000 population, because the former's proportion of subscriptions to population would be larger. **THIS BEING THE CASE, SOME VERY SMALL TOWNS ARE LIKELY TO WIN SOME OF THE LARGEST PREMIUMS.**

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Only think of it—**192** valuable premiums, worth **\$1500.00!** There is not a cheap one in the list, and all will be awarded, without favor, to those entitled to them. Subscriptions may be sent in each week and credit will be given for them. Besides the opportunity offered you to earn one of these special premiums, **WE PAY YOU LIBERALLY** for every subscriber you send us; so even if you should not get one of these prizes, you actually earn as much while working for us as you could at work at any other business. We have plainly and truthfully stated what we have to offer. Nothing has been overdrawn. We mean just what we say and every promise made will be faithfully kept. Remember, the opportunity is now yours to secure several hundred dollars without investing a cent. Full particulars will be sent to every one who applies, together with a **FREE OUTFIT** with which to start at once.

The contest begins with this announcement, and will close December 31, 1901. Subscriptions can begin with August, September, October, November or December issues. Renewals may count the same as new subscribers and such subscriptions date from expiration of present subscriptions; but agents should be careful to mark all renewals plainly on the subscription lists.

The special subscription price is 25 cents, but all who take subscriptions under this offer may do so at our low club rate of **15 cents a year each**. The publishers of The American Woman who make this offer are a perfectly reliable company who will do exactly as they promise.

**REMEMBER**, in addition to your chance of securing one of our cash or special premiums you are also earning other valuable premiums which we give club-raisers for securing subscriptions; so that under no circumstance do you run any chance of working for us for nothing. If you only succeed in securing as few as two subscriptions you get a fine premium. Write to-day for free outfit and be first in the field.

Address **THE AMERICAN WOMAN, No. 11 Chapel St., Augusta, Maine.**



## Comfort for Dumb Animals.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



the educated "vet" stands immeasurably above the old horse-doctor.

We have several fine veterinary schools in this country—notably the Harvard Veterinary in Boston. The most wonderful one in the world, however, is at Stuttgart, Germany, which has been known for more than eighty years as one of the best of its kind on the continent, and the steadily increasing number of its students necessitated an entire rebuilding of the premises and enlargement of the institute. This work has been going on for about two years and the new buildings have just been completed and equipped.

One of the principal features of the institute is the new great operating hall for horses. This department had been equipped with all the latest improvements and best apparatus and appliances. Where in former years manual labor had to be applied under the greatest difficulties to place the sick animals in convenient positions for various operations, almost everything is now done by ingenious machinery.

Of course there are departments for all domestic animals, but the horse department is quite an institution in itself. Most prominent among the new divisions of this department are the dark rooms, the stables, the rooms for massage and electrotherapy, the bath rooms, the great laboratory, the operating rooms, halls for examining sick horses, the pharmacy and the department for the preparation of medicines and bandages. The stables, both for sick and healthy animals, are the finest ever built. They are heated and ventilated by electricity, and the water troughs are automatically filled and emptied. The walls and roof of the operating room are of glass. For the construction of the walls Siervens glass bricks were used, while the roof consists of thick polished plate glass. The amount of light thus obtained is marvelous.

The bath room is equipped throughout with machinery worked either by electricity or hydraulic power. If a horse is to be given a foot bath it is lifted by means of an apparatus to a certain height, kept in such a position that it cannot move in any way, and then lowered into the bath.

Horses to be operated upon, before placed upon the table, are given a dose of morphine followed by the administration of chloroform. The table, with the animal fastened on, is then placed into the desired position, by pulling a lever. It can be brought into any position, and is said to be the most practical operating table ever constructed. The table is an invention of Professor Ernst, of the Polytechnical High School of Stuttgart.

Our cut shows a horse affected with a toothache. The examination is made by means of a mouth-opener, and the bad teeth are extracted by instruments worked by electricity.

All the carriages and wagons used throughout the horse department have wheels provided with India-rubber tires, so as to afford easy and silent transportation.

The work of the Veterinary Institute of Stuttgart is, however, by no means confined to the treatment of horses. Every domestic animal, from a tiny canary bird to a heavy milch cow, is treated. Soon after the opening of the new infirmary a poor family from a near-by village brought a cow whose leg had been



EXTRACTING A HORSE'S TOOTH.

broken. The cow represented the whole wealth of the family. The leg was amputated and a wooden leg substituted. During the first few days after the amputation the cow did not seem to be very fond of its wooden leg, but she soon became familiar with it, and in the second week following the amputation she walked back to her old pasture ground.

The Stuttgart Veterinary High School is a Government institution; the lectures are not only attended by regular students, but also by numerous army officers from all parts of the world and by a great many farmers and cattle raisers. The institute has spacious reading rooms, a first-class technical library, departments of anatomy, pathology, chemistry and physics. It is indeed a comfort, to those of us who love our animals, to know that human nature in these modern times is giving so much thought to their comfort and well-being.

THE belt worn by Napoleon I. at his coronation is now in the possession of a French family living in Paris. It is of crimson velvet embossed with exquisitely chiselled gold eagles and is starred with monograms in gold. Napoleon must either have been very slender, in

order to wear it, or else he must have been very uncomfortable at the ceremonies, for it is certainly very small.

## Some Odd Bookbindings.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



SOMEONE said once of Richard A. Galliene that he loved his books, and like a true lover, wished to see the objects of his affection daintily clad. So to every true book-lover the subject of fine bindings is of the greatest interest, and artists of all ages have utilized their skill in this direction.

The first bindings of which we have any record were made of baked clay. They were merely pockets made to contain each a clay tablet upon which were inscribed characters by the ancient Assyrians. Some specimens of these books are preserved in the British Museum, and are more than thirty-five hundred years old.

The books written by Latin authors were copied on vellum, and after being illuminated and decorated, were mounted on cylinders of wood, bone, ivory, or gold. The ends of these cylinders were sometimes of gold or were jeweled. The manuscript was mounted like a map and rolled up. These rolls were called "volumen," from which is derived our word "volume."

Other books of the Romans were made of several tablets of wood or other material covered with wax, upon which the writing was inscribed. At first these were joined by rings, but later were covered with leather or boards which were often richly decorated.

Five or six hundred years before Christ about all the book-making was done by monks, and the volumes were very expensive. These volumes were bound in covers of heavy boards, or even planks, often inlaid with gold or jewels. The monks took advantage of these thick covers, and were accustomed to hollow them out to make a receptacle for holding spectacles or other small articles, and afterwards for a place to hold valuables. This fact caused the destruction of many valuable books, for during the various wars of this period these books were ruthlessly destroyed by invaders for the sake of the jewels supposed to be hidden in the covers.

At this time a favorite present to a monastery or church was the gift of a manuscript book, richly decorated and bound in covers of gold or silver. To preserve valuable books from theft it became customary to chain them to their shelves. Sometimes, as the books were too heavy even to be lifted, they were chained to a revolving desk. A collection of these chained books is still on exhibition in the Abbey of Wimborne in England. At Wolfbutal in Germany is now preserved the richest collection of these manuscript volumes in the world, including Luther's own Bible.

Of course the invention of printing caused the book-binders art to assume vastly greater proportions. The 17th century was famous for its beautiful bindings, produced by the Italian artists. Magnificent collections of rare editions were made by collectors of this and later times. One Frenchman who had an especially fine library kept a pile of white gloves in his ante-room, which visitors were obliged to wear while handling his books.

Eccentricities in bindings have been many and varied. One English author bound a book on wood-carving in carved covers. A copy of "The Golden Ass of Apuleius" was bound by one collector in asses' skin. Another collector had a volume containing an account of Charles I. bound in a piece of that king's silk waistcoat. Another English collector, whose father had circumnavigated the globe, had a book containing his travels bound in a pair of buckskin trousers that the old gentleman had worn on his journey. A Russian poet who had the misfortune to fall and break his leg, necessitating amputation, carefully preserved and tanned the skin and bound in the leather a copy of his own poems, which he presented to the lady of his choice.

In a public library in England is preserved a volume giving the report of a murder trial, bound in the murderer's hide, while we are told that Flammarion had bequeathed to him the skin from the shoulders of a beautiful French countess, who requested that he should bind with it his personal copy of his next work. Human leather is said to resemble pigskin, though it is somewhat finer in texture.

The library of the British Foreign and Bible Society has in its possession an old Swedish bible which presents an ordinary gilt edge when closed, but upon the cover being thrown back, and the leaves slightly separated, the gilding disappears and in its place various pictures come into view on the edges of the leaves. Sometimes books are bound with a silver or bronze plate inserted in the cover, upon which an inscription may be engraved.

Another queer cover is composed of sheets of isinglass mounted upon cardboard. Between the sheets are pressed flowers, and the whole makes a beautiful effect. Other odd bindings have been made of all sorts of metals, celluloid, ivory, and basket-work. A history of Boston published some years ago was bound in wood from the historic old elm that used to grow on Boston Common.

This article would not be complete without a description of what is one of the largest and costliest books ever produced. It is the property of a Milwaukee man, and contains a splendid collection of autographs. The book represents a cash outlay of over \$8,000. It weighs over one hundred pounds; is bound in pig-skin mounted with silver. The autographs are arranged four on a page and the slip containing the autograph were both pared down so as to form but a single thickness of paper. It required four months to do this work alone. In regard to the collection itself. It contains the autographs of famous people all over the world including George Dewey, Edward W. Kemble, Rudyard Kipling, William McKinley, Frederic Remington, Edward de Rezske and thousands of others. Our illustration is a reproduction of this famous book.

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me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy and you cannot realize how happy I am."

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GERMANY is following the example set by England and America, and employing women in its government positions. They act as clerks and directors in small post-offices, and more recently have been employed as assistants in railway and telephone offices. In Norway, women have been for some time employed as Government telegraph operators and as station agents. In this latter capacity they not only attend to the train dispatching and to waiting upon travelers, but they manage the baggage as well.

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A wonderful and most ingenious device. It is easy to set, suited to any bait, can be used anywhere, nothing CAN ESCAPE UNTIL RELEASED. Every fish, muskrat, or squirrel which bites at the bait is surely caught. Perfectly safe for children, will not rust. One bait will catch from 20 to 30 fish. Will spring in any position; in short, it is a grand triumph over the unsafe and uncertain common fish-hook. Highly recommended by the Tribune, World, Press, and the Turf, Field and Farm. The Ohio Farmer says: "The Eagle Claw is a very ingenious article. The best device for catching fish and game we ever saw. Safe, sure and convenient." No. 1 is for all ordinary fishing, the ladies' favorite. No. 2 is for general use, both large and small fish and game. We have sold thousands, and they have all given splendid satisfaction.

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**MARRY** Any Man willing to MARRY a PLAIN Lady, worth \$10,000 who will give her husband \$5,000.00 Cash on Wedding Day. Address ERIE, 193 Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

**Mothers** Your children cured of incontinence of urine. Sample Free. Dr. F. E. May, Box 304, Bloomington, Ill.

**EXPANSION** is the order of the day. The Empire Mustache is the latest fad out. You show your friend the fine growth of nice black hair on your lip and say, "How do you like the looks of it?" then while she or he is intently examining it you quietly indicate the thing by a simple, easy breath and—Great Scott! Expansion—why you can't keep a straight face when you see the startled look come into your friend's face, for this funny mustache just expands and stretches out way across your face and nearly a foot beyond, then back it comes into position and away it goes again. Thus back and forth it plays the mystification of the observer and delight of the wearer. The device that works it is so easy and simple that you wonder why it was not invented before. They are the greatest marvel now on the market. **SPECIAL OFFER.** If you will send us only one yearly subscription, 15c. we will send you a whole year to the address you forward and send you by mail at our expense Two Expansion Mustaches. If you send a two year subscription and 25c. we will send you as a free premium Four Mustaches. We sell a dozen for 50c. postpaid. Agents sell quantities to everybody everywhere. Address SUNSHINE, Augusta, Maine.





## A Chinese Dinner Party in Boston.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

萬家樂

Mr. Ah Fang has the happy to say Mr. — that he is the joy to invite a few friends to dinner next Thursday. Which is at Number — Harrison Ave., at 2 o'clock, P. M., in the afternoon, up stairs."

When I received this note, enclosed to me in a thin envelope addressed in fire red ink, I read it with some considerable uncertainty which a second reading did not dissipate. I did not feel quite sure whether I was invited to a dinner in the Chinese quarter, the next Thursday, or whether I was to give a dinner there myself, "up stairs."

With a desire to satisfy myself as to whether I was guest or host, when it came my lunch time I walked around to Harrison Avenue, to a favorite restaurant where I was in the habit of going when I wanted a dish of "chop suey," or a cup of such tea as can be had nowhere else but in a Chinese eating house. Ah Fang frequently lunched there, too, and I knew if I saw him I could find out what the note meant.

My Chinese friend was there when I went in, and saved me the embarrassment of showing my ignorance, by exclaiming as soon as he saw me: "You come my dinner, next Thursday, I hope very glad?" and then launching out into an explanation of how he was to have some friends from Chicago, in Boston at that time, and was to give them a dinner in true Chinese style, to which he wished me to come to meet the strangers.

I expressed my delight to receive the invitation, accepted with thanks, and sat down to have some tea.

When the appointed day came, and I went to the dinner, I was surprised to meet, not some of Ah Fang's fellow countrymen, as my guests, as I had expected, but a finely educated Chicago professional man and his wife, and a lady friend of theirs. One of the women was a Quaker, and wore the close fitting bonnet and neat gown of beautiful dove gray silk which the women of that faith love to be dressed in. Two young women who were teachers in a Chinese Sunday school in Boston had been invited as the remaining guests. Was it not an odd little company to sit down to a formal dinner in Chinatown?

The room in which the dinner was served was the front part of one of the second story restaurants. The whole front of the room was open to the light and air of the street, but screened in part by curtains of soft red silk gorgeously embroidered. The tables in a Chinese restaurant are small, high, and made of ebony, teak or some other dark colored wood. Those used for us were magnificently inlaid with mother of pearl. Three tables were set side to side to make one board large enough to accommodate so many guests. We sat on stools of similar make to the tables, richly carved.

In deference to our customs a table cloth had been laid on the table. This is something one never sees in a Chinese eating room as a general thing, and when the first course was moved we begged to have the cloth go with it, so that we might enjoy the beauty of the table top, and also feel like doing "the real thing." Another concession to our heathen ways was that at the plates of all but Ah Fang there had been laid knives and forks as well as chop sticks which celestialists use. Our chop sticks were of ivory, about eighteen inches long and as large through as a lead pencil. Sticks made of ebony or some other wood are used for ordinary occasions. Most of our party, after a few awkward and laughing attempts with the sticks, clung to the forks, but I had come determined to "go the whole ticket," and after the soup ate every dish with my sticks, and did not drop very much of the food into my lap, either. "Going the whole ticket" meant eating of every dish of every course, and I went it. I have often wondered what some of the things were I ate that day, but only providence and the cooks could have told, but providence could not, and the cooks would not, so I am in ignorance yet.

Before our stools, when we sat down, were tiny porcelain plates. On each of these was placed a queer china dish, a sort of one sided cup about as, and something in shape like, a medicine spoon. In these was served a spoonful of intensely strong liquor as an appetizer. When this had been sipped, and the dishes removed the first course was brought on, birds' nest soup. This looked and tasted not very much unlike chicken soup, but was more mucilaginous. This was served in small bowls. We have heard and read so much about Chinese birds' nest soup that I was interested to find after that, some authoritative information about the material from which it is made.

Prof. Dean C. Worcester, who is one of the Philippine Commission appointed by the late President McKinley and who before the war had spent several years in scientific exploration of the islands, has described the swallows referred to in these words:

"One species of swift (they are called so because they dart around so swiftly in the air), is of considerable commercial importance, for its nests are much prized by the Chinese as an article of food, and when perfectly clean sometimes bring more than their weight in gold. They are found at the proper seasons in caves or on the faces of inaccessible cliffs, and the gathering of them is attended with considerable risk. They are made from a salivary secretion which rapidly hardens on exposure to the air into a substance resembling white glue in appearance. The best nests contain no foreign substances whatever, but after being repeatedly robbed the birds grow discouraged, or their supply of secretion begins to give out, and they supplement it with bits of moss.

"The best nests are taken on the Peron de Coron in the Philippines, a very precipitous rocky island at the mouth of the strait which separates Cullion and Busuanga. Fairly good ones may be found in Guimaras, Siquijor and Palawan."

After the soup we had fish of some kind. I cannot begin to describe all the dishes. One I know was roast duck, cut from the bones and served hot with rice in which there had been cooked small bits of boiled lamb and small preserved pears, served whole. Strange as this

combination may sound it was delicious. Of course there was "chop suey." This is the favorite meat dish of the Chinese, and can always be had hot, in any Chinese restaurant. It is a combination of beef, lamb, pork and chicken, cut fine but not chopped. With the meat are mushrooms, a queer Chinese variety brought over from Asia and when cooked looking exactly like small leather washers. Along with all the rest of this mixture is a quantity of sprouted barley. The sprouts are about an inch long, clean, white and crinkled, and they looked exactly like little white worms scattered all through the dish. Slices of onions are cooked in "chop suey" and the dish is sweetened. I presume there are other ingredients than those I have mentioned. I know that I have positively identified all these in one dish.

One reading my description might very naturally think that the mixture would be too awful for anything, but it isn't. It is good. I liked it the first time I tried it, and I know a great many white people who are fond of it and go to Chinese restaurants regularly to get it. With each dish of "chop suey" is served a little china saucer of some dark, highly seasoned sauce. Correct Chinese table etiquette demands that each morsel of the mixture be taken up with the chop sticks and just touched in the dish of sauce, but the "Melican man" novice usually is wise not to attempt so precarious an operation, and pours the sauce over his dish of food.

For dessert we had delicious little lemons or limes—I could not decide which they were—about as big as the end of one's thumb. These were put up in a thick sweet syrup and were served out of earthen jars just as they came from China. We also had another kind of preserves which I could not place as anything I had ever heard of, nor could my host explain what they were so that I could understand. The fruit was small and round and green in color, and looked exactly like the potato balls that I used to gather off the potato vines when I was a boy in Vermont. They were delicious to eat, though. Instead of spoons with which to eat these preserves we were given slender silver forks which looked very much like hair pins. Each lemon or potato ball was speared separately and eaten in that way. Last of all we had delicious tea, made as only the Chinese can make it. I shall never forget the look of horror of the attendants when one of the guests insisted on having sugar and cream for her tea.

After the dinner Ah Fang went as escort to show his Chicago guests Bunker Hill monument. Of course that was the first thing they wanted to see in Boston, and they were going to walk to the top of it. Wasn't it a funny combination? A Chinaman showing off Bunker Hill monument to a Chicago Quakeress and her friends?

## One Emblem of Brotherhood.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



I N an age so over-run with sects and societies, leagues and clubs, one can scarcely keep in mind the names and emblems daily popping into existence.

But there is one which commands a recognition and respect by even the least informed.

On June 24, 1859 after the battle of Solferino, sixteen thousand French and Sardinians and twenty thousand Austrians lay dead or disabled on the field and the medical staff was as usual wholly unprepared. So for days even hundreds of wounded lay among the unburied dead, or crawled away as best they could to care for themselves.

A certain Henri Dunant who was on the scene at the time, was so strongly impressed that he determined to use all possible influence in organizing a society to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded soldier.

And it was due wholly to his exertions and the co-operation of the Swiss General that the Red Cross owes its origin.

The first convention was held at Geneva, Switzerland, and the emblem of a red cross on white was chosen out of compliment to the Swiss republic, whose flag is the same, with colors reversed.

The treaty provided "for the neutrality of all sanitary supplies, ambulances, surgeons, nurses, attendants and sick or wounded men and their safe conduct when they bear the sign of the organization." And at the present date forty-two governments have accepted it.

Mr. Moynier is president of the International Committee, which is the authority. In times of peace as well as war a constant activity is necessary in preparing and collecting supplies. Russia set the good example of placing boxes in convenient public places that material and clothes might be contributed. And now the countries of Europe vie with each other in making the best collections. At The Hague about twenty-five years ago it may be recalled, there was an exposition where Red Cross work exclusively was displayed.

Training schools have been established in England, Germany, Russia, Sweden, Holland, and other smaller European countries in order to obtain efficient nurses for just this work.

Recognition was first asked of the United States government during our Civil War, when it was naturally declined. In 1866, Rev. G. B. Lowell presented a letter from Pres. Moynier to our government again, and for some reason it passed again unnoticed. Then during President Hayes' administration a letter was again presented by Miss Clara Barton, who had been for some time an active worker in the cause, and still no action was taken.

But by constant perseverance it was finally recognized by President Garfield and adopted at a meeting held at Washington, D. C., May 21, 1881.

Right away came the opportunity for work with the Michigan forest fires, and from that time on funds and energy were forthcoming and well expended during the Mississippi and Ohio River floods, the Mississippi and Louisiana cyclone, Texas famine, yellow fever epidemic in Florida, and May 30, 1889, came that awful and heartrending report of the Johnstown flood, where twelve million dollars capital was lost and as near as can be estimated, five thousand lives swept away.

We recall with reverence "Octave Thanet's" name in connection with the food and supplies sent at the time of the Russian famine. And in the fall of '95 Frances Willard's name stands forth against the horrors of Armenia. But first and foremost in our hearts looms one whose name and face go hand in hand with the only ray of sunshine the "Reconcentrado" knew. And who, during our Spanish-American war, did not feel the soothing touch? Clara Barton and Florence Nightingale! Could any two names have more significance.

As the American leader herself says concerning the Red Cross society: "It has no rich offices to bestow, no favorites to reward, no enemy to punish," the purest kind of philanthropy—that of alleviating suffering.

## DISCOVERED BY A WOMAN.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female diseases and the piles. It never fails to cure any of the various diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhoea, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc., or the piles from any cause or in either sex. I will gladly mail a box of this wonderful medicine free to every sufferer. Mrs. C. B. MILLER, Box 102, Kokomo, Ind.

John Wesley was the founder of Methodism in England in 1739. It has existed in the United States since 1766.

## A GIFT OF EMBROIDERY SILK.

Embroidery silk will cost you a lot of money bought at the store. We have a great jobbing-house lot of rich silk bought at wholesale. No high retail price with a lot of middle profits; but we get actual cost price. We want to give the whole benefit to our lady readers. We have prepared a lot of assorted packages containing a liberal supply of bright, rich, new silk in a variety of tones and shades, which would cost a heap of money bought at the stores. We will send our illustrated bargain list and full assorted, large sized silk package for the ridiculously low price of ten cents; or, three packages for twenty cents. Write to-day before the rush. S. W. LANE & Co., Augusta, Maine.

**\$300** Genuine Conf. money for \$1. \$100 for 50c. R. MAXWELL, Box C, South Bend, Ind.  
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A Rare Chance  
NO DECEPTION.

We Speak Nothing But the Truth.

You can get a full size decorated breakfast, dinner or tea set (140 pieces) and 12 silver-plated knives, 12 forks, 12 tea spoons, 12 table spoons, 1 butter knife, 1 sugar shell, and salt and pepper set, for selling our Remedies. We have a reputation for square and honest dealing, and to prove it, every honest person who sells 4 boxes of our famous Carbolettes at 25 Cents a box, a positive cure for constipation, indigestion and torpid liver, will receive our generous offer of a 140 piece Decorated Set and 50 Pieces of Silver plated table ware, with a Salt and Pepper Set, which we give absolutely free for selling the 4 boxes of Carbolettes. Don't send a cent, order to-day, and we send the Carbolettes by mail; when sold, send us the \$1.00, and we guarantee if you comply with our offer, we shall send you with the Salt and Pepper set: the 12 knives, 12 forks, 12 table spoons, 12 tea spoons, 1 butter knife, 1 sugar shell, and 140 piece decorated set will be given absolutely free. We are an old reliable concern, and guarantee the dishes and silverware full size for family use.

We allow you 15 days in which to sell and pay for these 4 boxes of Carbolettes, and we will state right here that any person who receives dishes and silverware from us, and who finds that they are not exactly what we claim, they are at liberty to return them to us and we will pay them their value in cash.

N. B.—Never before was such a generous inducement made by any reliable concern, but we expect it to quickly advertise our Remedies and place them in the hands of reliable people.

Every piece of Silverware is guaranteed Sterling Silver plate, and the dishes are exquisitely decorated in the most artistic designs.

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Adapted for Both Sexes. This is the Best Letter writer published in Europe or America. It teaches how to write a letter on any subject out of the writer's own head, or to compose a first class, intelligent Business Letter, or a Love Letter. It gives as Samples hundreds of Letters of every kind, shows you how to carry on a long correspondence with a Lady or Gentleman—Letters that never fail to penetrate the heart. No other Book has this MYSTERY OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE. Only French Books have it. It is the Book to refer to when you want to write what you cannot find words to express. It opens all the little rivulets that start from the soul, enabling you to write on any topic with ease and elegance; or how to write a Complimentary Note, or how to write for the Press, Rules on spelling correctly, on Punctuation, on Directing Letters, and an immense amount of information to be found in no other book. There are many young people who are good scholars, but are woefully deficient in ordinary Letter Writing. They receive letters from friends, that they postpone answering on account of their own ignorance of elegant letter writing, until at last they remain unanswered, and they lose their correspondent. Many a son or daughter at school, receive beautiful letters from home, and wonder why they cannot write such letters in return. It is because you need Practical Instruction in Letter Writing. Price by mail 25 cents.

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All the Figures of the German and Every New and Fashionable Waltz, Round and Square Dance known in Europe or America. The Author is the most celebrated Teacher of Dancing in America, and he has made this Book so Simple and Plain that any child can learn to dance in a very few days. No other Book on Dancing will compare with this. All the Latest and Fashionable Dances are minutely described by Illustrated Figures from Life. Explaining Positions in Round Dances &c. and this Original Method enables persons to learn the Waltz by practicing a very few times, and you will find no difficulty in acquiring it. It gives the History of Dancing, Etiquette at the Ball Room, the Opening March, and March in Line, the Serpentine, the Arbor, the Pigeon and Column Marches, the Position in Quadrilles or Square Dances, and Explaining their Movements, the Variety Quadrille, the Quadrille Star, the Guard Quadrille, the Caledonian, the New Polo Quadrille, the Lancers, the Saratoga Lancers, the Waltz Lancers, the Five Positions in Round Dances, the Modern Waltz, the New Social Waltz, the Redowa, the Redowa, the Polka, the Polka Mazurka, the Polka Redowa, the Bohemian Polka, the Polka, the Polka Mazurka, THE GERMAN—117 Figures, giving the Names and Full Description of each, and how to dance them correctly. It is a book of great value. Price 75 cents.

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BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN.

It is useless to say the bicycle has had its day, for it is just as popular as ever, judging from the sales of the present year.

It is an actual fact that there are today between ten and eleven millions of wheels in use in the United States. Our army uses them and the armies of other civilized nations make use of them in various ways. They are employed in Africa to distribute tracts (thus being utilized in the gospel service), and in Jerusalem one sees Arabs, Jews and Gentiles riding the wheel. Once a fad over which the country went crazy, the bicycle has now become a necessity and an article of daily utility. Incidentally the bicycle is again growing in favor and reports from manufacturers all over the country indicate an increase of about twenty-five per cent. in the sales of the present season.

While they are selling at practically the same prices as last season, there has been a great reduction from the prices of a few years ago. The best chain wheels can now be bought for thirty-five dollars to fifty dollars, and the chainless for sixty dollars to seventy-five. This puts it at a reduction of about fifty dollars a wheel from five years ago and brings the bicycle down where the ordinary working man can afford it; thus making a place for the wheel as a standard necessity instead of a luxury. This is a welcome development for the bicycle trade, for it means that the wheel has taken its place in the economy of the masses as a necessity, and that dealers can hereafter count on a steady and increasing demand for their wares from the average people and depend upon a trade that will not run by fits and starts.

Several years ago bicycling was a fad and the craze for it swept over the country like a wave, swallowing everybody in its track. The rich and fashionable took it up for a season or two and everybody followed their lead, especially the women. But everybody did not drop it when the rich tired of wheeling. On the contrary, we all found out how much utility as well as enjoyment there is in a bicycle and the "bike" was here to stay.

After the craze had gone over us like a wave of the sea, a good many riders laid aside their wheels perhaps, with the intention of never taking them up again; but after a season or two without the bicycle they have come to realize that something had gone out of their lives. In other words, they miss their wheels and discover that nothing else has come to take its place. Their memory goes back to long afternoons in the woods, moonlight rides by the sea, the animation of the city parks, and the pleasure of covering long distances with comparative ease. No practical flying machine has been invented yet and until it is, nothing comes so near it as a first-class bicycle. The old rider who had laid aside his wheel realizes this as never before and there comes back to him the old zest for speeding hither and yon on the "wings of the morning". And so the wheel has now taken its place as a necessity for hundreds of thousands and on that basis the trade foresees a permanent demand not wholly dependent upon fickle fancy; and the trade knows.

Exercise on the bicycle in the open air is one of the greatest boons vouchsafed to modern man and cannot help being beneficial whenever exercise of any kind is desirable. The burden of proof is on him who denies it. He has to show either that the person has too much exercise, or not as much exercise as he ought to have; or that he has some displacement or peculiarity of organization, or some acute or chronic malady that makes the wheel unsuited to him, or that makes it unhealthful for him when some other form of exercise might be of benefit to him.

As to women, there is no physiological reason why they may not ride the bicycle, provided they are well and strong. All physicians who say otherwise are contradicted by the best and wisest doctors on both sides of the Atlantic. Most evils result from absurdities and excesses, such as parents letting their children ride too much, or letting beginners ride as much as those who have been riding for months or years. Here is where so many make a mistake, in thinking that a naturally strong person who is a beginner can ride as long as a time or as much as a naturally weaker one who is accustomed by long habit to riding. No one should ever attempt to regulate his speed by that of another. It is a matter of temperament and of judgment. To obtain the best results



FOR GUNS OR GOLF CLUBS.

a man should ride his own wheel which has been properly adjusted to himself, and he should be particular that it is just suited to him.

There are many questions about weight; but if you undertake to push a wheel uphill you will see that it takes comparatively no strength at all; so that I think that matter has been given undue importance. I do not believe it makes much difference whether a wheel weighs eighteen or twenty-six pounds. With a good wheel and a reasonably careful rider the liability to accident is not great.

There is no reason why middle-aged men, or even old men, should not take up cycling,

provided of course, that they keep in mind the limitations that their age imposes. Great speed, long rides and hill-climbing put a strain upon even the young and robust and will naturally find out the weak places in an elderly man's constitution, the parts of the system that are going faster than others. But with reason and caution the bicycle is just as much of a boon to the man of sixty and over as to the man of twenty.

The bicycle develops courage and courage is a moral quality that is needed everywhere today. It develops the power of self-determination, which is also needed among men today as never before. The wheel prevents irritability, especially that kind that comes from lack of exercise and indigestion. It helps to overcome low spirits, for no one can go out in the open air and race with the wind without coming in a happier and a healthier man. The bicycle is indeed a great and marvelous machine, one to which we owe a debt as great as to the printing press. May it remain with us as long as the world lasts!

We have had a number of inquiries for a motor machine that can be attached to the ordinary bicycle. The E. R. Thomas Company of Buffalo have the best I have yet seen. At the Pan-American Exposition the machine was well shown and interested many people.

The article is an outfit which can be attached to any frame twenty-two inch and upwards without change, making a safe, compact and speedy motor bicycle excellent as a light roadster. Since I saw it at the Pan-American Show I have seen it on the road in New York and Massachusetts and it seems to be able to do all that is claimed for it, rendering bicycling on a hot day a very easy and simple matter. I do not know the price of the attachment and it will be useless for readers to apply to me for it; but I presume it can be had through any reliable bicycle agency.

The motor is of the air-cooled electrically ignited four cycle type, the only cycle answering all the requirements for use on a small light vehicle. The motor is placed the best



MECHANICAL HORSE.

possible for balance, safety and non-vibration, and the additional weight is not excessive, less than any other I have seen. The method of attachment, by means of an aluminum motor frame, gives to the whole outfit rigidity, strength and compactness.

The entire motor is made to gauge and is minutely adjusted. All parts are interchangeable and can be immediately duplicated if necessary. A reserve of strength has evidently been the motto throughout, permitting high initial compression and greatly increased power. Every detail, it is claimed, is the result of expert study, and all the features adopted have been proved best in the inventor's mind, so that the highest efficiency is guaranteed.

At any rate this motor has been adopted by some good wheelmen and is giving satisfaction. This outfit is shown in the illustration, as it may be attached to any single or tandem wheel. It has an individuality of its own and will do much to overthrow the popular idea that a motor bicycle is a dangerous affair that is to be mounted only by dare-devils and that he who rides it is inviting death. There is no reason why a motor cannot be so successfully made that it will be as safe as leg-power. All that is needed is an ordinary high-grade bicycle made a little stronger to meet the new conditions imposed by the weight of the motor. This particular motor weighs twenty pounds, which I believe is as light as they have been successfully made as yet.

It is claimed that every well-made bicycle is capable of carrying eight times its weight with but little effort on the part of its rider; this will be a good thing for you to remember when investigating attachments of any kind. The additional weight of a motor resting on the front wheel (unlike the conditions of an ordinary bicycle, where the weight is principally on the rear wheel), gives the rider the benefit of the resilience of both tires, so that a motor bicycle may be easily far more buoyant and comfortable than an ordinary wheel.

To ride the auto-bi, or motor-wheel, the beginner should place the rear wheel in a bicycle stand and learn to start and stop the machine, which can be quickly done by merely turning the levers on or off before starting the pedals. Within a short time anyone can master the thing so as to ride easily hundreds of miles with no trouble at all.

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Grade 1901 Model 1901 BICYCLE in either Ladies' or Gents' style, cut this ad. out and send to us, mention No. 97M, state whether you wish Gents' or Ladies' Bicycle, and we will send the bicycle to you by express C. O. D., subject to examination; you can examine it at your express office, and if found perfectly satisfactory, one of the handsomest, best and highest grade 1901 bicycles you have seen, the equal of bicycles that sell everywhere at \$25.00 to \$35.00, then pay the express agent **OUR \$9.75** and express charges, otherwise **SPECIAL PRICE OF \$9.75** and express agent will return it at our expense. **THE BRIGHTON** is one of the highest grade bicycles made, covered by our strongest blading guarantee. Frames of highest grade 1 1/4 in. seamless tubing, finest ball bearing nickel-plated hubs, pedals, bearings, etc., best quality spokes, rims, etc., hand-painted and decorated, handsomely decorated and nickel-trimmed, our **\$9.75** does not begin to cover first cost of material. We bought them at a forced sale and until all are gone we will sell them at \$9.75. Order today, don't delay. You never will have another such opportunity. Address **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.**

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Costs lots of money but here is a jolly good Bagpipe **FREE**. You can play lots of tunes on it and entertain a room full of company. Go along the street with the musical strains of the Bagpipe coming forth and you can attract a big crowd of people; they create a great sensation. We have just imported a big lot of these musical instruments and want to scatter them all over the United States. But don't send for one unless you like the real Yow, Yow, Yow, of the genuine Scotch Bagpipe which is played every day in the Coldstream Guards before the Prince of Wales Palace in London. Do you want a pair of these pipes? **FREE**, so you can get twin tones and harmonious discords that will elevate your musical education while you are learning to play? Send 25c. for two years' subscription to our Family Herald, the great dollar monthly. We pay all charges on the two Bagpipes and send two of them gratis. Send 15c. for a year's subscription and we send one Bagpipe **free**. One dozen Bagpipes for only \$1.00. You can easily sell them for 25c. each and make two dollars by the transaction. Address **FAMILY HERALD, Dept. H, Augusta, Maine.**

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**Do not delay until the last ray of hope is gone, but begin NOW—TODAY, and win back your manhood. This offer may not appear again. Address, THOS. BRADFORD, 135 Bradford Building, Cincinnati, O.**

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**ADJUSTABLE RECLINING CHAIR.**

This Easy Chair is Full of Durability and Utility.

The style was invented in England many years ago by William Morris, the celebrated London artist. He built it from a knowledge of anatomy. He was also a famous designer of art furniture. It is therefore called the **Morris Chair**. It is made of the finest Oak and so arranged by a simple device in the back that it can be adjusted to either a lounging or upright position. It is the most useful and popular Easy Chair on the market, either in Europe or America to-day. It is finely upholstered and tufted. Every one needs at least one of these Chairs in their home, no matter be it humble or great. They seem to just fit the tired body after a busy day's work, in fact it fits one's every mood. We have ordered many thousands of these Chairs direct from an immense furniture factory and although the Morris Chairs sell at many stores from \$15.00 to \$50.00 each, we are giving these Chairs away as Premiums for selling our Remedies. **LACE CURTAINS FREE.** Sell only six Electric Plasters at 25c. each, which we Nottingham Lace Curtains, each of these elegant fine lace so you get six yards of Curtains in the pair, and as they are four feet wide for the two, they gather up nicely and furnish an elegant drapery for even the very broad windows; in fact in many instances one pair would do for several windows, and just what anyone needs to adorn the home with. Every one of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of lace curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as six or eight dollars a pair. They are delivered free to you, all you get the curtains and learn all about the Morris Chair inducement. It will surprise you in liberality. We do not give the \$15.00 Chair for selling only \$1.50 worth of goods as some firms profess to do, but we make you the most liberal, honest and straightforward offer ever put out. We are paying our agents over 40c. for selling only one dollar's worth of goods in order to get them advertised. We want to prove there is a sure prevention and cure for **Lame Back, La Grippe, Coughs, Colds, Pneumonia, Rheumatism, etc., etc.** Send for the six Plasters to-day. Address, **THE GIANT PLASTER CO., Box C, Augusta, Maine.**

**What Some of Our Patrons Say About Our Reliability and Standing.**

**A NINE YEARS' TEST.**

GALENA, ILLINOIS, Oct. 15th, 1900.

TO THE GIANT CO., AUGUSTA, MAINE.

GENTLEMEN: Do you realize I have been selling your remedies for the past nine years? After acting thus as your agent for this long period it is not flattery when I say to you that no business house exists that can surpass your own in honesty and fair dealings—even more, generosity to its patrons. Not one jar or the slightest cause for complaint is surely evidence beyond question in my nine years' dealings with you. May you live long to enjoy the good you are doing is the wish of

Yours truly,  
FANNIE ABRUCHON.

**A TEN YEARS' TEST.**

THE GIANT CO., MUNIC, INDIANA, Oct. 10th, 1900.

GENTLEMEN: After ten years of successful work for you I can truthfully say that you have more than done as you agreed during my long period of selling your famous Orien Remedies. There has been nothing taken away the joy that came to me from getting my first box of Orien. As for Premiums I have received so many and such nice ones, too, that I cannot possibly enumerate them. They were all fine and perfectly satisfactory. I consider your firm one of the best in existence and although I have been giving offers to write letters for other concerns, I have always been true to The Giant Orien Co., for they have been honest and faithful in carrying out their promises to me. Wishing you continued prosperity, I remain,

Yours truly,  
EMMA E. BRANSON.









THE LATE PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

## Assassination of President McKinley

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

**T**HE attempted shooting of President McKinley, while holding a reception to the public at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo on the afternoon of Friday, September 6, is familiar to our readers it having been fully given out in the daily papers.

This is the fourth time that a president of the United States has been shot by assassins.

The first case was the attempt on the life of Andrew Jackson, in which the brave old General seized his assassin and nearly killed him before he let him out of his hands. No injury was received by General Jackson, although the assassin was armed with both a knife and pistol.

The second shooting of a President was that of Abraham Lincoln, who, just as the Civil War was closing, was shot down in the old Ford theater at Washington by John Wilkes Booth. Laura Keene, the talented actress, was playing "Our American cousin". There was a large attendance, owing to the fact that the President was there, as well as General Grant and other military leaders. General Grant was called away and Booth entered the back of the box and shot the President in the head. He died at the house across the street next morning, not having regained consciousness. The same night an attempt was made on the life of the Secretary of State, William H. Seward, who was badly knifed, together with his son, who rushed to his rescue, so that for a time he was confined to his bed with illness.

A reward of \$100,000 was offered for the capture of Booth, who had fled on horse back. It developed that in jumping from the President's box, he broke his leg, and was finally surrounded by soldiers in an old barn in Maryland, and after the barn was fired was shot by Sergeant Boston Corbett, and he lingered in great agony for four hours before dying; his body was buried secretly. Years later it was moved to the family lot in Baltimore.



PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT. LT.

On July 2, 1881, James A. Garfield accompanied by James G. Blaine, Secretary of State, was in the station at Washington, about to leave on the train, when a disappointed office seeker from Chicago, named Charles Guiteau,

walked up to him and deliberately shot him.


Guiteau was tried at Washington, and finally hanged. His skeleton is in the museum at Washington.

After the shooting of President McKinley, he lingered for a week, apparently rapidly recovering from the effect of the shooting; but unfortunately his heart was unable to hold out and he died Friday Sept. 13th, of heart failure, to the universal sorrow of the American people, who had learned to love him intensely.

He was immediately succeeded in the office by Vice President Roosevelt. It has been so fully recounted in the daily press that COMFORT only points out the more important facts. This foul deed of an Anarchist is certain to bring vengeance upon the members of that society.

## Men, Women and Things.

CONDUCTED BY JENNIE MELVENE DAVIS.



Mrs. Howard Gould is one of the most charitable women in New York. She is considered as a real Lady Bountiful by all organizations that have the care of children within their province. The Goulds have never been prominent socially, although George Gould has lately commenced to entertain in a royal manner at his magnificent country home, Georgian Court. Mrs. Howard Gould was Miss Katherine Clemmons. She had a brief career on the stage as the star in a play called A Lady of Venice. While the play had a New York hearing it was not a success, although the public agreed that the star was a beautiful woman however opinions might differ as to her histrionic ability. She was a Western girl and had worked her way through difficulties to the stage. When Mr. Gould came of age he married the beautiful actress and although his family have never received her, Mrs. Howard Gould has been able to entertain herself. The magnificent yacht of Howard Gould is well known in all European ports. The Emperor of Germany was an admiring visitor when the yacht was in a German port. Mrs. Gould has been much in the public eye through her refusal to submit to the extortion of dressmakers. Women who are the helpless victims of bills that show the ingenuity of the craft rather than an actual rendering of work done have admired Mrs. Gould's refusal to submit to extortion. Mrs. Gould is a brilliant blonde with a beautiful figure and carriage.

Uncle Remus and his quaint philosophy are household words with the entire reading public of America. Joel Chandler Harris is as sunny and happy himself as the character that he depicts. Mr. Harris is red headed and freckle faced. He could hardly be called handsome by the most prejudiced friend but his most earnest critic would be forced to admit that his face attracted and held attention by its thorough sunniness. For nearly twenty-five years Joel Chandler Harris was identified with the Atlanta Constitution. His famous Uncle Remus stories were written at the suggestion of the editor that Harris furnish some dialect stories. Brer Rabbit and Brer Fox made their debut and since then have become classics. Mr. Harris has written many books but his long stories have not rivalled his short ones. He gave up newspaper work some time ago although he is but fifty-two years of age. He loves his home and is rarely seen abroad so that many of the people of his own city do not know him by sight. He has himself the blending of quaint humor and hard common sense that makes his character sketches so irresistible.

Count von Bulow, the Chancellor of the German Empire, is a statesman by training and heredity. His family have been prominent in the annals of North Germany for generations. It was a Bulow who gave Napoleon his first defeat on German soil, a Bulow who established the principles of the present German war method; a Countess of that family




who founded the first kindergarten in Germany and another Countess von Bulow who first demanded the civil right of women in Germany. The family have been pioneers and originators in war, philanthropy and art. The race has been independent and obstinate and these qualities combined with their intellectual supremacy have made them leaders for generations. The father of Count von Bulow was imperial Secretary and the son has at last reached that rank. Von Bulow had the usual training of the German schools and universities with the forced term of military service. This fell during the Franco-German war and young von Bulow won the rank of a lieutenant. Von Bulow was a disciple of Bismarck in his early life but he is free from the littleness that spotted the career of the great chancellor. He possesses in a rare degree the tact that leaves him free from personal animosities. He entered the diplomatic service and for twenty years pursued a steady course of successful progress. France, Russia, Italy and Greece and the secretaryship of the Berlin Congress at last led to the dignity of the appointment of ambassador to Rome. Here he became intimately known to the young Emperor and here he met the brilliant woman who is now Countess von Bulow. The interest and friendship of the Emperor led to a call to take the important position of Minister and Secretary of Foreign Affairs. No man ever entered upon the difficult duties of this position with a more thorough preparation than that of Count von Bulow. His entire training had been in the foreign service and he knew his Europe like a primer. He conciliated the Reichstag at once by a simple, direct, business-like statement of his reasons for certain moves. He has been an expansionist but withal a conservative one in spite of his statement "Germany wants a place in the sun". His acquisition of the Carolines and other Spanish Islands and the skillful manner in which Germany won the leading influence in Samoa were triumphs both at home and abroad. The fierce aggressiveness of the warlike William II. is tempered by the calm suavity of the Chancellor. Count von Bulow has a commanding figure although his fifty years have added a little too much flesh for elegance. He is fair with blue eyes and light hair that are typically German.



The five and ten cent counters were a popular feature in general merchandise stores some few years ago. One man saw in them his business opportunity and today over sixty stores located in different cities east of Pittsburg bear the name of F. W. Woolworth.

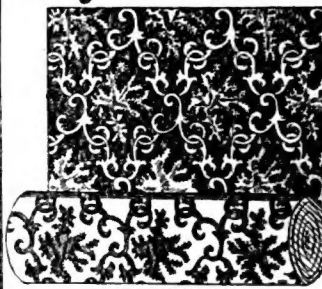
His success is one of the many that may be found in America. His magnificent house on Fifth Avenue, New York, is a palace even on that street of palaces. In 1879 its owner could not pay the monthly rent of \$30 for the store where he started his success. Mr. Woolworth was born away up in New York state in a little town of Jefferson county. He lived the life of a poor farmer boy until he was twenty-one. He had had seven years' schooling, walking four miles a day to the little country schoolhouse in order to get it. After a short course in a commercial school, he secured a position in a store at Watertown. After ten years he was receiving \$10 a week, yet on this sum he managed to marry and also to save about fifty dollars a year. He noticed the success of the five cent counters which were then a feature of country stores. On borrowed capital he opened a small store in Utica—and failed. His old firm agreed to give him the assistance to make another trial and this was made in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with a stock of less than five hundred dollars in value. The first year he cleared \$1500 and now his business is reckoned in the millions. His central office is in New York and from there he keeps in daily touch with the sixty stores that are the result of his success. During the holiday season he has 5000 employees and his salary list exceeds half a million. Some idea of the volume of business may be gained by the record of 44,060 sales in one day in one of his New York stores. His buyers are constantly searching the markets of the world for goods that can be sold in the five and ten cent stores, for no article above that price is handled.

Mr. Woolworth has an erect figure, a simple, energetic manner and a plain direct address that indicate the qualities that have led him to success.



Alfred C. Harmsworth, the editor and owner of the London Daily Mail, recently made a tour of the United States. The young man seems to have the Yankee quality of "hustling" for his newspaper career dates only to 1882. Today he is the owner of a large number of English newspapers and magazines. He is the son of an Irish barrister. After receiving an ordinary common school education he entered the office of the Illustrated London News. He seemed from the first to have an instinctive sense of what the people wanted and would buy in papers and cheap magazines. He considers that English newspapers are more accurate than American newspapers in the printing of news but not so aggressive or active in securing it. He edited a New York paper one day in order to show his idea of a newspaper. Mr. Harmsworth has met with a meteoric success in the newspaper world. In 1894 he equipped an Arctic expedition at his own expense. His comments on America are evidences of the keen discernment that has been the prominent factor of his success.

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Only 48c Per Yard.**



Extra heavy all wool carpet, new 182 patterns, full yard wide, quality usually sold by your dealer at 65c to 85c per yard, our special price only 48c. per yd. plus freight prepaid North of the Ohio and East of the Mississippi - 9 other points pro rata. This heavy, genuine all-wool carpet weighs 18 oz. to the yd., and is made in reversible pattern, so that both sides may be used. We have an endless variety of patterns, and describe here three of the most desirable:

**1460-16**—A handsome blue ground with novel scroll design interwoven with ferns, a very striking, artistic pattern.

**1879-M**—Dark green ground, large scroll pattern in light brown intermingled with flowers in green and brown, making a very handsome pattern for good sized rooms.

**1458-S**—This has a gray background with handsome new scroll effect a shade darker, with bouquets artistically interwoven in dark green colors. This carpet is very rich and cannot help but please the most fastidious.

We show hundreds of other designs and colored plates in our catalogue. We cut and match carpets FREE when desired and charge but 3c extra per yard for sewing, when ordered. Samples of either the above numbered patterns sent on receipt of 10c in stamps to cover postage. Money refunded if you are not perfectly satisfied. Send for our free catalogue (400 pages) full of bargains in house furnishings. We refer to any bank or commercial agency in the U. S. as to our solvability.

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